

THE FRONTLINE

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Vol. 43, Issue 18

Serving the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield communities (www.stewart.army.mil)

Big Fish Contest
proves quality
time for Families
See Page 1C

May 8, 2008



Cooperation captures 29

Spc. Amanda McBride
4th BCT Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq — In an effort to clear out criminals in the area, Iraqi army soldiers raided several houses in the city of Jabella, Iraq, May 2.

With support from Coalition forces, the raid resulted in the

detainment of 29 suspected insurgents.

Soldiers with the 3rd Battalion, 31st Brigade, 8th IA Division, led the early morning raid, with help from Soldiers with Company B, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, currently attached to the 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division.

See CAPTURE ————— Page 6A

Warriors make the grade with ed help

Randy Murray
Public Affairs Specialist

Warriors in Transition battalions were formed by the Army to provide installations with a sustainable system where wounded, injured or severely ill Soldiers can receive the medical treatment they need to

heal and the vocational rehabilitation they need to transition back to their units or the civilian community.

For some Warriors, rehabilitation involves working for one of the support organizations at Fort Stewart or Hunter Army Airfield. For others, rehabilitation involves education.

See EDUCATION ————— Page 7A

Safety Day announced

Special to the Frontline

The Installation Safety Office will be hosting a Safety Day themed "100 Days of Summer Safety" 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., May 16. The event will be located in the parking lot adjacent to building 162 near the newly erected Marne Chapel. Safety presentations and instruction will include swimming, boating, outdoor maintenance,

grilling, personally owned weapons safety as well as DUI prevention.

The Installation Safety Office will also have on display various types of motorcycles and all terrain vehicles with required personal protection. Soldiers, civilian employees and Family members are encouraged to attend this informative event. Please call 767-7880 if you have any questions.



Sgt. Tanya Polk

Staff Sgt. Michael Franz is welcome home by his wife Andrea and daughter Victoria, 3, at Fort Stewart's Cottrell Field, May 4. Franz and approximately 60 other Soldiers with the 3rd Infantry Division Special Troops Battalion's "Torch Party" completed a 14-month tour in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. See story on Page 3A.

Barracks tour shows living space, with plans to grow

Kevin Larson
Chief, Public Information

The installation leadership here stressed May 1 the importance of providing the best conditions possible for single 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers who live in they installation's barracks, especially when the come home from deployments.

Providing quality barracks rooms to Soldiers is an important part of the

reintegration process, and it is an important Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield mission, Col. Todd Buchs, Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield garrison commander, said. He explained the steps that are taken by Family readiness groups, the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program, the rear detachment commands, and the installation support staff to ensure that Soldiers' barracks rooms are ready for them when the come home.

See BARRACKS ————— Page 7A

Covenant increases job opportunities for Families

Randy Murray
Public Affairs Specialist

Thanks to the Army Family Covenant, which was signed by the Secretary of the Army and Army Chief of Staff in November 2007, more money is being made available to expand existing non-appropriated funds services and activities like outdoor recreation and child care services,

which means more job opportunities for Family members and retirees living near Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield.

"Because of the Covenant, there has been an increase in employment opportunities in child care services," said Sue Faust, NAF Human Resource officer. "Because more services are being made available, more NAF jobs are being created."

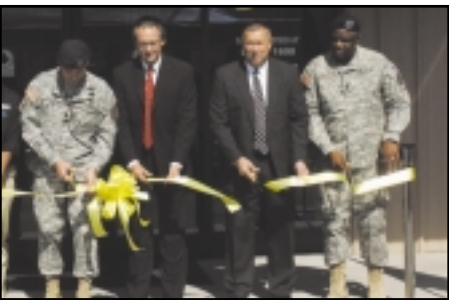
See COVENANT ————— Page 6A

D Company deactivates



Courtesy photo

First Sgt. James Schley (left) and Maj. Chad Chasteen (right), the final Company D, 3rd Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) command team, prepare to case the company guidon during the de-activation ceremony, April 24 at Hunter Army Airfield. See story on Page 6A.



Hunter Army Airfield hosts SSSC grand opening, See Page 13A

Help the community help Soldiers, Families, give to AER, campaign ends May 15 See Page 10A

Hunter Officer Spouses' Club awards Scholarships See Page 4B



Marne 6 Sends

Share lessons learned to help others get through hard times

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch
3rd Inf. Div. commanding general

As humans, we learn from our mistakes, but best of all, we learn from each other.

This week I conducted two video teleconferences back to organizations in the United States. The entire command group spent one night talking with majors at the Intermediate Level Education coaching them through the expectations leaders have for executive officers and operations officers in combat.

Each of us shared lessons learned from being majors and commanders, and the students in the course were able to ask us questions in a virtual dialogue.

The next night I conducted a video-teleconference with the Defense Science Board. My staff talked to military leaders about best practices of information operations and counter-improvised explosive device efforts.

For an hour we shared lessons learned with the Board, and its members were able to pose questions directly to those leading this fight in combat.

Those few hours spent dialoging will go a long way for the individuals on both sides of the video screen because we will all learn together.

I also spent time this week with a young company commander contemplating leaving the service. As I talked with him, I learned that he loves the Army and wants to stay, but his wife would like a more stable environment in which to raise a Family. When I asked him about his wife's support network, he told me that what she likes best about the Army are the other Army wives and the Family readiness groups because other Army wives know what she is



going through.

Individuals reaching out to each other are unbelievably powerful, especially when some of us are more than 6,000 miles away.

In the 3rd Infantry Division Headquarters I have required every field grade officer to take a lesson learned from the deployment and author an article for a professional publication because we owe it to others to share our experiences.

All of us need to share with each other – one of us may be struggling with something that someone else is struggling with. As our units are redeploying, I am demanding that each commander conduct an after action review (AAR) so the next deploying unit can conduct this process even better than the one

before it. Our Families deserve the best redeployment and reintegration programs we can offer.

In the 3rd Infantry Division, every Soldier is an information operations officer. We have found it too difficult to get the story back to the American public through the national media filter so our Soldiers are reaching out to their hometown media outlets themselves. We all have the responsibility to tell the story because America deserves to know the great work her sons and daughters are doing over here.

As humans we can only get better by helping each other, and military units only get better by sharing lessons learned. Our Soldiers are the Nation's most precious resource and they deserve the very best so we lean on each other to learn and to get through the hard times.

Rock of the Marne!

President proclaims Military Spouse Day, 2008

Special to the Frontline

Military spouses embody the courage, nobility of duty, and love of country that inspire every American. On Military Spouse Day, we pay tribute to the husbands and wives who support their spouses in America's Armed Forces during times of war and peace.

The legacy of military spouses began when colonial Americans were fighting for independence. Martha Washington boosted the morale of her husband's troops by visiting battlefields and tending to the wounded. Since then, members of our Armed Forces have served our nation accompanied by the steadfast love and support of their spouses and Families.

While our men and women in uniform are protecting our country's founding ideals of liberty, democracy, and justice, their spouses live with uncommon challenges, endure sleepless nights, and spend long periods raising children alone. Many military spouses are also committed volunteers, serving other military families and local communities. Our nation benefits from the sacrifices of our military Families, and we are inspired by their courage, strength, and leadership.

On Military Spouse Day and throughout the year, we honor the commitment spouses have made to freedom's cause. To learn about ways to support our troops and their spouses and Families, I encourage all Americans to visit www.americasupportsyou.mil.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim May 9, 2008, as Military Spouse Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities and by expressing their gratitude to the husbands and wives of those serving in the United States Armed Forces.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Division dedicates installation library to Marne hero

Kevin Larson
Chief, Public Communications

A 3rd Infantry Division hero and Medal of Honor recipient was honored during a ceremony dedicating Fort Stewart-Hunter Army

Airfield's transformed library, May 2.

Family members of George P. Hays and installation leadership unveiled the sign naming the library here in Hays' honor at the ceremony. The 1st Lt. George P. Hays Library is also a transformed library thanks to a 4,000 square-

foot addition.

The addition includes space for 50 computers with internet access, a family-friendly room that has four computers with internet access for use by parents and their children, a self service center for copying, printing, color copying and faxing, and a Common Access Card PIN reset service. The addition also allowed the library to increase the size of its book collection.

Having a library like this at Stewart-Hunter is in keeping with the Army Family Covenant, said garrison commander Col. Todd Buchs.

"Our transformed library is a significant addition to the well-being of everyone in our community who enjoys using a world class media center," Buchs said. "Our library, like all libraries, is a reflection of our society. It is much more than a collection of books. It's a place where people go to seek knowledge on subjects they want to learn more about. It's a place where ideas and dreams can be found. It's a place where information is freely available for everyone. The transformation of our library shows our commitment to those ideals."

The library's expansion began 22 months ago and was funded by money set aside from the installation winning the Army Community of Excellence Award in 2004 and 2005, Buchs said.

Hays' daughter, Joan Hays-King, said the library was a fine addition to Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield. She was honored to attend the ceremony dedicating the library in

her father's name, and said her father would have felt the same.

"I know my dad would be very, very proud and pleased," Hays-King said.

Diana Archibald, Hays' niece, also attended the ceremony. Hays-King's brother wanted to attend the ceremony but was unable to travel. Hays-King will share the photos of the ceremony with him, she said.

Hays earned the Medal of Honor while serving as a first lieutenant with the 10th Field Artillery, 3rd Division, American Expeditionary Force near Greves Farm, France, July 14-15, 1918.

Heavy enemy artillery bombardment cut Hays' lines of communication. He immediately began communicating with the neighboring command and two neighboring French batteries by running between them. Hays knew the dangers of being a runner, but still visited the French positions so often that they were able to maintain accurate fire. While moving between the positions, Hays had seven horses shot from under him, and he was severely wounded. Hays went on to become a general and commanded the 10th Mountain Division in the European theater of operations during World War II.

Sarah Lynch, wife of Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, 3rd Infantry Division commander, attended the ceremony. Maj. Gen. Lynch sent a video greeting back from Baghdad, Iraq, for the ceremony, praising Hays' heroism and celebrating the transformed library's new features.



Sgt. Tanya Polk

Linda Heifferon, director of Stewart-Hunter Morale, Welfare and Recreation; Sarah Lynch, senior Family readiness group leader and wife of Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, 3rd Inf. Div. commander; Stewart-Hunter Garrison Commander Col. Todd Buchs; Joan Hays-King, daughter of George P. Hays; Diana Archibald, niece of Hays; and Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Durr cut the ribbon at the transformed Stewart-Hunter library during a ceremony dedicating it in honor of Hays, May 2.

Moments in Marne History: 1st Lt George P Hays

Fort Stewart Museum

This is the first of a two-part history series written by Vicki Hester of the Fort Stewart Museum Nov. 2006. This is an amazing but true 3rd Division Soldier story from the Great War.

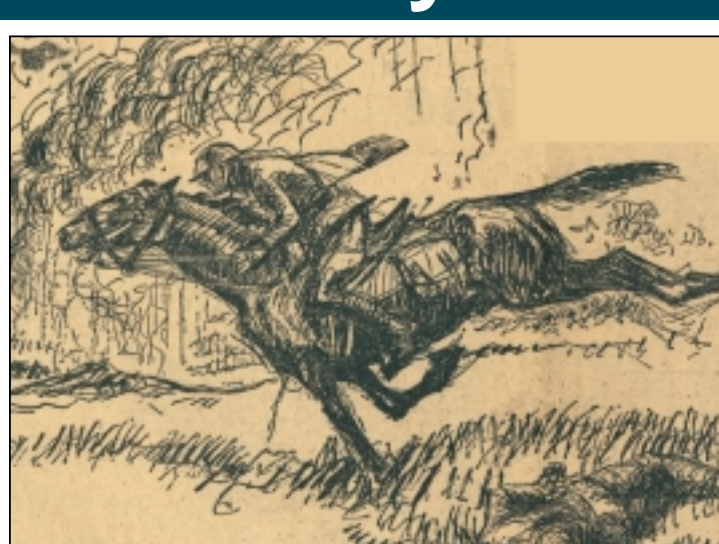
George Price Hays was born in 1892 in China while his parents were on a mission. He was named for a great-uncle who had been the president of Washington and Jefferson College. George was a slight man, five-feet eight inches tall and known to be quiet and contained.

When war was declared in 1917 he left college and went to officer's training camp at Fort Root, Ark. He was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant and reported to the 10th Field Artillery at Douglas, Ariz. Interesting to note; two different captains had suggested that Hays be transferred to other commands. Neither officer thought of Hays as a good Soldier.

The 10th Field Artillery Regiment landed in France and was sent to an artillery training range near Coetquidan in Brittany where the French had purchased thousands of acres of training ground.

May 29th, 1918, 6:55 p.m. a telephone message orders the 3rd Division to move by motor trucks to the Marne River near Chateau-Thierry and most of the division started movement to the area, but the 2nd Battalion of the 10th Field Artillery remained in training until July 7th when they left training to join the division at the Marne.

By July the 3rd Division held a sector running from just west of Blesnes to the east of the Surmelin Valley. From left to right the regiments were the 4th, 7th, 30th and then the 38th Infantry. At first they were supported by French artillery, and then the guns for the American artilleries began to arrive. Among the first reg-



iments to receive their guns was the 10th Field Artillery. They were assigned the mission to support the 30th Infantry and 38th Infantry holding the right of the line.

300,000 men amassed either in sectors of the Marne River or in supporting positions in preparation for something large that they were trying to understand. French civilians were retreating in large numbers from the area along the Marne River. French soldiers in retreat were whispering that it was too late.

Hays' Battalion was to relieve a French Artillery Battalion and received all their charts, maps and data, which proved valuable. Battery "F" was sent to the front line with the mission of destroying the bridge across the Marne in case the Germans really came across. (They would accomplish this mission later with 54 shells.)

Under cover of night, July 9 and 10, the batteries got into posi-

tion. The 2nd Battalion, 10th Field Artillery Regiment was assigned the sector in support of the 30th Infantry Regiment.

Hays was assigned liaison officer between the 30th Infantry and his own battalion. An open plain rose gently from the Marne River in this sector held by the 30th Infantry. On the edge was a railway embankment. South of this were villages, Fossoy and Crezancy. Behind these the Aigremont Woods (30th Infantry Headquarters was in these woods.)

Hays studied the front from different positions. He used field glasses from several observation posts studying for his mission. He studied every path from Infantry Headquarters to his battalion's position.

In order to gain ground the German's would have to amass along the fringe of the woods that lined the northern hills. Then they would have to come down the roads to the river bank. Of course they would need to cross the river.

The artillery studied where it was easiest for the Germans to assemble pontoon bridges. This is would be the direction of their guns.

At midnight the night of July 14, 1918 the Germans started their infamous and terrible barrage. George Hays was at the 30th Infantry Headquarters when the bombardment started. Colonel Butts, Commander of the 30th Infantry, told Hays to phone his battalion and ask for counter-fire.

Hays used a box-telephone that stood on a greasy table covered with orders and candle drippings. He contacted the artillery by telephone but during the conversation the line snapped. A shell had landed in the dugout that housed the switchboard and the operators were killed. Telephone communication between the 30th and its artillery was broken. Two of Hays artillery messengers were sent to repair the telephone lines and they never returned.

See next week's edition of the Frontline for the conclusion of a "true 3rd Division Soldier story from the Great War."

Deployment ends for Division ‘Torch’ Party

Sgt. Tanya Polk
Editor

Kevin Laron
Chief, Public Communications

“I can’t believe this is it,” said Andrea Franz. “He’s finally home, and it feels so surreal.”

Franz and her daughter Victoria, 3, anxiously awaited the arrival of their husband/father, Staff Sgt. Michael Franz - a member of the 3rd Infantry Division Band. Staff Sgt. Franz and approximately 60 comrades returned home from a 14-month deployment in support of surge operations in southern Baghdad, Iraq under Task Force Marne.

These 60 Soldiers, all of whom are with the Division’s Special Troops Battalion, made up the “Torch Party” (or advance party) and marched across Fort Stewart’s Cottrell Field during their welcome home ceremony, May 4.

Traditionally, “torch” parties begin the transition between the battalion’s rear detachment command and the deployed command.

Lt. Col. P. Brian Gale II, 3rd Inf. Div. rear detachment commander, welcomed the STB Soldiers home, thanking them for their 14 months of service.

“You and your fellow Marne Soldiers secured an area the size of West Virginia, suppressing the violence in that region and denying extremists safe haven,” Gale said. “You have also succeeded magnificently in building up the capacities of Iraq. Your names and the names of the operations you conducted while deployed—Husky, Torch, Slam, Rugged, Pile Driver—are written large in the history of Iraq. Dog-face Soldiers, you have every right to be proud of what you have done.”

After Gale’s welcoming, approximately 100 Family members and friends greeted the returning heroes with signs, smiles, cheers, hugs, kisses and tears. Franz said she didn’t know how she was going to react, but the ear to ear smile and glow on her face spoke louder than words as she finally reunited with her Soldier.

About 20 Soldiers from the STB already returned home, April 9. Their mission is to continue preparing the new 3rd Infantry Division headquarters building for occupation.

The rest of the Special Troops Battalion is expected to return this month and early June.



Photos by Sgt. Tanya Polk

Elizabeth Hanafin welcomes home her husband, Sgt. Joshua Hanafin, 3rd Inf. Div. Band, after he returned from a 14-month deployment at a ceremony on Cottrell Field, May 4.



Above: Approximately 100 Family members and friends welcome home their Soldiers from a 14-month deployment during a ceremony held at Fort Stewart’s Cottrell Field, May 4. The returning Soldiers represented the Division’s “Torch Party” - or advanced party.

Right: Returning Soldiers with the 3rd Inf. Div.’s STB render a salute as the National Anthem played during their welcome home ceremony held at Fort Stewart’s Cottrell Field, May 4. More than 60 Soldiers returned from a 14-month deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and represented the Division’s Torch Party.



Stay accident-fatality free focused

Special to the Frontline

Motorcycle safety continues to be an issue across the Army. Motorcycle riding is inherently dangerous and riders are subject to additional hazards of being hard to see and lack of personal protection as that offered by a car or truck.

Accidents continue to happen. On April 8, a Soldier was killed in a motorcycle accident near El Paso, Texas. The Soldier was operating his 2006 Suzuki GSXR 600 motorcycle at a high rate of speed when he collided with a van. The Soldier was licensed, wearing his prescribed personal protective equipment, and had attended an Army-approved Motorcycle Safety Foundation Course.

Knowing the hazards is only half the battle to safe motorcycle operations, the other half is safe practices. There is no way to completely mitigate and alleviate road hazards, but with proper risk management you can improve your odds.

Some helpful tips you can follow to reduce your chances of being injured on a motorcycle include following a motorcycle rider checklist.

- Always wear a helmet with a face shield or protective eye-wear. A motorcycle rider not wearing a helmet is five times more likely to sustain a critical head injury.
- Wear appropriate gear. Make sure to wear personal protective equipment, as specified in AR 385-10, that will help minimize the amount of injuries in case of an accident or a fall.
- Follow traffic rules. Obey the speed limit; the faster you go, the longer it will take you to stop.
- Be aware of local traffic laws and rules of the road.
- Ride defensively. Don't assume that a driver can see you;

nearly two-thirds of all motorcycle accidents are caused by a driver violating a rider's right of way. You should always ride with your headlights on; stay out of a driver's blind spot; signal well in advance of any change in direction; and watch for turning vehicles.

- Be awake and ride sober. Don't drink and ride; you could cause harm to yourself and others. Additionally, fatigue and drowsiness can impair your ability to react, so make sure that you are well rested when you hit the road.

- Preparing to ride: Making sure that your motorcycle is fit for the road is just as important as practicing safe riding. Should something be wrong with your motorcycle, it will be in your best interest to find out prior to hitting the road.

- Make sure that your motorcycle is in good working order! Conduct a before operations check; oil level, lights, turn signals, clean windshield and headlight(s), tires at a minimum Check tires for any cracks or bulges; or signs of wear in the treads. Low tire pressure or any defects could cause a blowout. Look under the motorcycle for signs of oil or gas leaks. Check the headlight, taillight and signals —test for high and low beams. Make sure that all lights are functioning and clean. Check the oil, brake, hydraulic, and coolant fluid levels. The levels should be checked weekly and each time before you ride. If you have a windshield, make sure it is clean so you can see clearly.

- Once you've mounted the motorcycle, check the clutch and throttle. Make sure they are working smoothly. The throttle should snap back when released. Check the mirrors. Clean and adjust all mirrors to ensure sharpest viewing. Check the brakes, test front and rear brakes. Each brake should feel firm



and hold the motorcycle still when fully applied. Lastly, check the horn.

Proper safety techniques and vehicle inspections are good risk management procedures. The installation was 222 days accident-fatality free as of May 7; help keep our Soldiers, civilians and Family members safe.

Army Wounded Warrior Program honors four years of service

Special to the Frontline

Washington, D.C.—The U.S. Army Wounded Warrior Program is proud to announce that April 30 marks four years of their committed service to severely wounded, injured, and ill Soldiers and their Families. AW2 assists and advocates for the most severely wounded Soldiers by providing individualized support throughout their lifetimes, wherever they are located – regardless of their military status. AW2 assists the unique population of Soldiers who have, or are expected to receive, an Army disability rating of 30 percent or more in one of several specific categories.

Each AW2 Soldier is assigned to one of the AW2 advocates located throughout the coun-

try who will work personally to connect a Soldier or Family member to a broad range of services. AW2 Advocates help Soldiers and Families in a variety of ways, including working with them to obtain full benefits, educational opportunities, financial and career counseling, as well as helping those who want to stay in the Army to continue their service.

“AW2 is the only constant we have. The only constant we can count on,” said Nelida Bagley, the mother of an AW2 Soldier who suffers from a severe open-brain injury. “Our AW2 advocate was there during the first 14-hour surgery, was there with resources, was there with a hug, was there with answers.”

AW2 is one component of the Army's focus on caring for wounded warriors. All wound-

ed, injured and ill Soldiers are assigned to a Warrior Transition Unit, which are located at one of 35 installations throughout the Army. Soldiers in a WTU receive support from the triad of care that includes a primary care manager, nurse case manager and military squad leader to focus on healing. Those Soldiers with extensive medical needs are simultaneously assigned to the Army Wounded Warrior Program and receive a local AW2 Advocate to assist long term.

“The Army is fully committed to the care and support of its Soldiers and Families,” says Colonel Jim Rice, director of the Army Wounded Warrior Program. “These Soldiers have given much and now its time for the Army to give back to them and their loved ones. AW2 will be with them for as long as it

takes.”

Originally known as the Disabled Soldier Support System, the program was established on April 30, 2004, as the Army responded to the needs of the most severely wounded, injured or ill soldiers from the Global War on Terrorism. The name of the program was changed to the Army Wounded Warrior Program in 2005, and currently the program assists more than 2,700 Soldiers.

AW2 Soldiers' injuries include: 24 percent loss of limb; 20 percent post-traumatic stress disorder; 17 percent traumatic brain injury; 10 percent paralysis; 7 percent blindness / vision loss

For more information about the Army Wounded Warrior Program, call 1-800-237-1336 toll free or visit www.AW2.army.mil.

Reunion/reintegration classes

Attention Special Troops Battalion Family members. Your reunion briefings are rapidly approaching. Mark your calendars today! The date and time is 5 to 9 p.m., Friday.

The points of contact for the briefing is the 3rd Infantry Division STB Rear Detachment Commander, Capt. Janelle Verbeck; Liaison Officer, Staff Sgt. Louis Puricelli at 767-6987; and

Family Readiness Support Assistant Clovia Ferguson at 767-6809 or 271-9910. Please contact your Unit LNO or FRSA as soon as possible to sign

your children up for the “Battle Mind for Children” class, which will take place during the same time as the adult class.

Free child care will be offered to Families who are registered through CYS call 767-2312. For more information call 767-6809 or 271-9910.



Get the latest information about redeployment and reintegration

VA to contact combat vets regarding benefits

Special to the Frontline

WASHINGTON - The Department of Veterans Affairs will be contacting nearly 570,000 recent combat veterans to ensure they know about VA's medical services and other benefits. A contractor-operated "Combat Veteran Call Center" will telephone two distinct populations of veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan.

In the first phase, calls will go to an estimated 17,000 veterans who were sick or injured while serving in Iraq or Afghanistan. VA will offer to appoint a care manager to work with them if they don't have one already. Care managers ensure veterans receive appropriate care and know about their VA benefits.

For five years after their discharge from the

military, these combat veterans have special access to VA health care. The Department screens combat veterans for signs of post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury. VA personnel have been deployed to the military's major medical centers to assist wounded service members and their families during the transition to civilian lives.

For the new call center, the second phase will target 550,000 Operation Iraqi Freedom-Operation Enduring Freedom (OIF-OEF) veterans who have been discharged from active duty but have not contacted VA for services. Once contacted, veterans will be informed about VA's benefits and services.

The initial calls will be made by a private contractor, EDS, which specializes in technology.

Marne Voices Speak Out

What is your Mother's Day shout out?

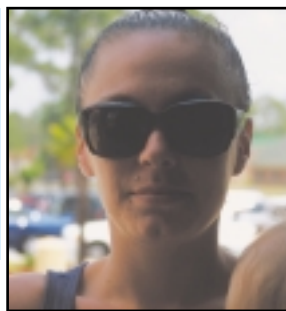
“Happy Mother's Day. I love you.”

Nita Lewis
Family member



“Thank you, you're the best. I could never ask for more.”

Jessica Clark
Family member



“Thank you for everything you've given me. I hope to be half the mother you are.”

Torri Pless
Family member



“Job well done.”

Warrant Officer Rob Vail
Division STB



“Thanks for supporting me in hard times!”

Spc. Joe Molina
Company B, WTB



“I love you.”

Maj. Dan Kuntz
Special Troops Battalion



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Write a letter to the editor!

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Dismounted operation yields significant find

MND-C Public Affairs

CAMP VICTORY, Iraq – Coalition forces found a significant weapons cache while conducting dismounted operations approximately five miles southeast of Baghdad, May 3.

The cache contained three rocket-propelled grenade warheads and propellants, three RPG launchers and a heavy machine gun.

Soldiers from Company D, 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, found the cache in an open courtyard.

Other items found in the cache included several ski masks with an Iraqi National Police brassard, a light machine gun with a small amount of ammunition and multiple trip flares. The RPG items are believed to be of Iranian origin.

EFP cache found in Warij

2nd BCT Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq – Coalition forces found a weapons cache of explosively-formed penetrators in the southern Baghdad community of Warij, May 2.

Soldiers from 6th Squadron, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division were on patrol in Warij and found four EFPs hidden in an office closet shelf of a factory. A brand new 107

mm rocket was also discovered. The EFPs were covered with foam and had wires leading from the back.

Forty pounds of unknown bulk explosives, a rocket sled and blasting caps were also found.

A guard at the factory was detained after it was determined that he lied about having prior knowledge about the rocket and EFPs.

The cache was taken to a nearby forward operating base for investigation.

Sol catch weapon cache

Multi-National Division - Center

CAMP VICTORY, Iraq – A Sons of Iraq member turned in a large cache to Spartan Soldiers of Company A, 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, May 2.

The cache contained an operational

DSHKA anti-aircraft gun with 300 rounds, 17 rockets of various sizes, a rocket-propelled grenade launcher with seven RPGs, one 120 mm projectile and other small arms munitions.

The contents were handed over to an explosive ordnance disposal team for destruction.

Tip leads to anti-aircraft gun, ammunition in Jurf

4th BCT Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq – A tip led Coalition forces to a cache containing an anti-aircraft gun and 103 37 mm rounds, April 27 in the al-Hujierr area of Jurf as Sakhr, 40 kilometers south of Baghdad.

Soldiers from Company A, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, used intelligence gathered from Sons of Iraq to locate the cache. Once at the location, they compensated a local resident who had an excavator to help dig up the site.

After digging approximately 10 feet, the AA gun and crate of munitions were visible.

“We couldn’t have done this without the hard work of the Soldiers who dug up the cache all day and the SoI who reported it,” said 1st Lt. Ryan Daly, Company A.

The AA gun was considered in operable condition and is believed to have been buried approximately four to six months, according to informants.

The cache was transported to Patrol Base Jurf and was disposed of by an explosive ordnance disposal team.



Courtesy Photo

Soldiers from Co. A, 3/7th Inf. Regt., find an anti-aircraft gun, April 27 that was buried in the al Hujierr area of Jurf as Sakhr, Iraq.

Ft. Stewart/Hunter Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Town Hall Meeting @ Fort Stewart & HAAF
8 May; 5:30pm
Club Stewart & Hunter Club

On post Families may bring up issues of concern for review by panel to improve the quality of life on Ft. Stewart & HAAF. Watch Live on Marne TV & Call In Questions @ 767-ROCK (FS)/ 315-ROCK (HAAF). Info: 767-1257 (FS) / 368-2212 (HAAF).

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Open House Summer Travel Ideas @ HAAF
8 May; 1-6pm,
Leisure Activities Center

Get the most out of Military discounts! Come out and plan your summer vacations with the help of Leisure Travel. 315-3674

.....

5th & 6th Grade Recruitment Dance
16 May; 7-9pm
FS Youth Center

Outreach event geared towards attracting promoted 5th graders and present 6th graders in becoming CYS members. Come and learn what the Youth Center has to offer! 767-4491

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Aerobic-Thon @ HAAF
17 May; 9am - 1pm
Tominac Fitness Center

4 hours non-stop fitness featuring a variety of aerobic activities such as Belly Dancing, Hip-Hop, Kick Boxing, Pilates, Salsa, Step, Tai Chi, & Zumba.
Nutrition consultation, body fat and blood pressure readings will be available with a personal trainer on site. 315-2019

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Pre-Teen Dance
23 May; 7-10pm
FS Youth Center

Come out, have fun, and don't forget to dress to impress! Open to CYS members & guests, grades 6-8. No charge. 767-4491

.....

Universal Studios Trip
23-25 May

Depart early afternoon from FS & HAAF Leisure Activities Centers for sunny Orlando, FL! Cost is \$200 per hotel room (includes bus & hotel rm. for up to 4 people). Theme Park tickets available for purchase through Leisure Travel. Registration deadline is 9 May. 315-3674 (HAAF)/ 767-2841 (FS)

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Jacksonville Zoo Trip
24 May

Depart early morning from HAAF & FS Leisure Activities Centers for Jacksonville, FL. Cost \$30 (behind the scenes tour) or \$20 (adults) and children \$15 (ages 3-12). Price includes bus & zoo tickets. 315-3674 (HAAF)/ 767-8609 (FS)

Co D retired to Night Stalker history

Kimberly T. Laudano
160th SOAR Public Affairs

Company D, 3rd Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne), was officially de-activated in a ceremony April 24, at Hunter Army Airfield.

“You, Gentlemen, are the mold that we break today,” said Maj. Chad Chasteen, the last Co. D commander to his company formation. “You represent the 21-year lineage of this outstanding organization and you represented it well. There is simply none better.”

Lt. Col. Walter Rugen, 3rd Bn. commander and former Co. D commander, reflected on the “Raiders” contribution to the 160th and the special operations mission.

“This team was born and thrived in Panama and that tradition carried on in Puerto Rico and is the embodiment of what we in our community are always trying to attain: that of a pure habitual relationship born of training, living, sleeping, eating and

fighting,” he said.

“This is what cannot and will not be cased or drawn down as D/160 goes.”

The company began as the 617th Aviation Detachment Special Operations (Airborne) on June 21, 1987, at Howard Air Force Base, Panama. The unit was comprised of former elements of Task Force 160, the 129th Special Operations Aviation Company, Special Forces Group Flight Detachments and volunteers from the 1st Bn., 228th Aviation Regiment.

On July 27, 1994, the detachment was re-designated Co. D, 160th SOAR. The company was the first forward-based Army Special Operations Aviation unit, pioneering the way for overseas organizations. As mission requirements changed over the years, Co. D flexed to meet the demand. The company was re-located to Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, in 1999 then moved to Hunter Army Airfield and 3rd Bn, 160th SOAR in 2003. Co. D, 3rd Bn., had a dual mission supporting both U.S. Southern and Central

commands during its last five years.

During this time, the Night Stalkers of Co. D. supported special operations ground forces from 3rd Special Forces Group and the Navy SEALs in Central and South America. They also simultaneously supported U.S. Central Command over the past several years, deploying in support of operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom.

“We deactivate today while some members of our company are deployed to combat and others are preparing to leave,” Chasteen told his men. “A small formation is a fitting tribute to your incredible OPTEMPO (operations tempo) and continuous commitment to the good fight. I am proud to say that I fought with you.”

The company was de-activated as part of the overall 160th transformation plan, which will re-organize 3rd Bn. to meet the Regiment’s overall growth and mission focused structure. Rugen said that transformation is painful, but there is much to be

gained as well.

“When we look back years from now, we will realize that as a regiment we had the fortitude, foresight and courage to change,” he reflected. “We will see the D/160th legacy, its team of teams re-created multiple times over in new formations.”

Chasteen reminded the audience that Special Operations Command South is not losing their aviation fighting force, rather gaining a more focused group of Warriors to continue executing the mission.

“We look forward to continuing the old relationship under a new name,” he said. “(The commander of) SOCSOUTH didn’t lose D Co. today; he gained Charlie 3 (C Co., 3rd Bn.).”

Every Soldier from Co. D will remain a Night Stalker. Some will make a short move to Co. C, 3rd Bn., whose 3rd platoon will now solely handle the SOCSOUTH aviation mission. Others will fill vital evolving roles in 4th Bn. at Fort Lewis, Wash.

Raw courage recognized at Ranger awards

Kaytrina Curtis
Hunter Public Affairs

“Energetically will I meet the enemies of my country, I shall defeat them on the field of battle for I am better trained and will fight with all my might.” As a line from the Ranger Creed, Rangers from the 1st Battalion, 75th Rangers lived up to these words during a recent deployment to Afghanistan and Iraq.

Family and friends assembled to witness an awards ceremony for more than 700 Rangers from the 1st Bn., 75th Rangers, as they were recognized for their combat actions in a combat awards ceremony at Hunter Army Airfield’s Truscott Air Terminal Friday.

As the guest speaker for the awards ceremony, United States Army retired General William Kernan, a highly decorated, former Ranger commander, expressed the pride he felt being a part of the ceremony. “Before me stands the abid-

ing strength and steel of our nation,” said Kernan. “These are men of character and men of courage.” Kernan said a Ranger’s life is full of uncertainty. “They step boldly into the unknown because of their training and leadership, but more importantly, because of their confidence in themselves and each other.”

One 23-year-old volunteer Ranger, Spc. Jeffrey Rigel, Bravo Company, 1st/75th Rangers, who received Army Commendation and Joint Commendation medals during the ceremony, stated the satisfaction he felt for receiving the award. “I am really proud,” said Rigel. “Every day you come into work, you work hard, deploy, you work hard there.”

Rigel, whose father and great-grandfather are also veterans, joined the Army soon after the attacks of 9-11, knowing that he was going into a combat-deployable unit. Rigel said being a Soldier runs in his Family. “It’s something that I take to heart.” After joining the Army, Rigel stated he wanted a greater challenge, so he volunteered to become a Ranger.

Rangers such as Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Parks, Alpha Company, 1st/75th Rangers, was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He suppressed a hostile position, directed the assault of the target building, personally evacuated a casualty under fire and received the medal for saving multiple lives. Parks puts his life on the line for many reasons. “For my country,” Parks said. “Because I have a Ranger to my left and right who are putting their lives on the line.”

Family members also received recognition during the ceremony for their support and dedication. “For the Families and loved ones, it takes a special kind of courage to stand on the tarmac and say goodbye to your Ranger, and for the uncertainty that each deployment brings,” said Kernan “But your support is essential to mission success.”

Of the Rangers standing proudly before him, Kernan said, “Their kind of courage is raw; it demands extraordinary dedication to the nation, to the regiment, and to each other.”

COVENANT from Page 1A

Describing the Covenant as having a “ripple effect,” Faust pointed out the two child development centers being built at Stewart and two more at Hunter will require more child care center employees to take care of the children.

Also, a new dog kennel being built near the Holbrook Pond Outdoor Recreation Area equipment rental office will require animal care technicians to take care of the dogs and operations assistants to run the kennel.

These entry level positions will in turn require filling supervisory staff and management positions. And though NAF jobs are open to the general public, military spouses and veterans receive hiring preference.

“Currently, about 40 percent of Morale, Welfare and Recreation’s NAF workforce are Family members,” Faust said. “This means we have Family members serving Family members. Who can better understand Family members’ needs?”

Faust said about 8 percent of NAF employees are youths, a number that increases with summer hires. Most of the 223 Student Aids positions that will soon be filled are clerical or labor jobs though several youths qualify for the 45 life guard positions that will be filled, beginning May 16 through Labor Day. Summer Aids must be 16 years old.

The major difference between appropriated and non-appropriated funds job is that the salaries of non-appropriated funds employees are paid for by the service or activity, not the U.S. taxpayer, Faust said. Although federal dollars may be provided through the Army Family Covenant to build new facilities for child care or recreation, these activities must sustain themselves through funds generated by the activity. She said the success of Stewart-Hunter’s NAF activities is evident in the growth of its workforce. In May 2007, Stewart-Hunter had 522 NAF employees. As of May 2008, that number had grown to nearly 600.

NAF job vacancy announcements are posted and applications are available at the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, located in room 2013A of the Audie Murphy Soldier Center, building 253.

The office is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Friday. Hunter has a self-help NAF area for listed vacancies and an office that is open on Thursday only from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For information about NAF vacancies and the application process, call 767-5051.

Stewart-Hunter’s Web site, www.stewart.army.mil provides considerable information about job opportunities for Family members and retirees.

Go to the installation Web site, click on About Fort Stewart then Employment Opportunities. Scroll down the page to the link of interest, whether it’s How to Apply for Appropriated Funds (AF) Jobs, How to Apply for Non-Appropriated Funds Jobs or the Army’s Resume Builder.

Note: Assistance with writing a resume is available through Army Community Service. For information, call Randy Knox at 767-5058.

Here are some other useful Web sites for job-seeking Family members and retirees: www.usejobs.opm.gov, the official site for all federal jobs; www.cpol.army.mil, Army vacancies with Resume Builder, and NAF positions; odm.aafes.com/employment/default.asp, AAFES employment; www.commissaries.com, DeCA (Defense Commissary) employment; www.dodea.edu/home/index.cfm, Department of Defense Education Activity; www.dol.state.ga.us/link.htm, Georgia Dept. of Labor state jobs; www.studentjobs.gov/e-scholar.asp, student jobs, internships, scholarships, fellowships, grants, apprenticeships and cooperative education within the federal government, www.fema.gov/Federal Emergency Management Web site, including job vacancies.

Legal team recognized for job well done



Randy Murray

Stewart-Hunter Garrison Commander Col. Todd Buchs awards Staff Judge Advocate Col. Margaret McDevitt the Meritorious Service Medal during an outdoor awards ceremony, April 30. Prior to 3rd Infantry Division’s 2007 deployment as part of the surge, 20 Soldiers from the 8th Legal Support Organization were mobilized from four mid-western states to assist 3rd Inf. Div. OSJA.

During their mobilization, these legal specialists completed 110 courts martial and over 400 Article 15’s, set up a tax assistance center that processed over 3,500 tax returns that resulted in over \$8 million in tax refunds and helped recover nearly \$900,000 in medical care expenses.

Eleven SJA Soldiers were awarded during the ceremony. Maj. Myles Perry was also awarded an MSM. Soldiers awarded an Army Commendation Medal included Sgt. Steven Steinkamp, Sgt. Jacob Halverson, Sgt. Ryan Byng, Staff Sgt. Bruce Leavitt, Staff Sgt. Shanin Weaver, Sgt. 1st Class Gregory Martin, Capt. Matthew Thornton, Capt. Daren Jacques and Capt. Daniel Brennan.

CAPTURE

from Page 1A

“This raid was very successful,” said 2nd Lt. Kyle Comfort, a native of Anniston, Ala., and currently assigned to Company B. “Once the operation got rolling, they already had a cor-don off of the city.”

With information from Iraqi intelligence, the Soldiers set out to start clearing the area of caches, suspected criminals and illegal weapons.

“This was actually a completely IA (conducted) raid,” Comfort said. “They were in charge of planning and coordinating the operation.”

The goal of the raid was to surprise criminals inside the houses, with Iraqi soldiers going door to door of those buildings targeted.

Throughout the mission, there was always a Coalition force presence, but the IA had con-

trol of the raid.

“We simply provided support by following behind their operation,” Comfort said. “We have done several operations where we have supported the IA.”

During the raid, Iraqi soldiers came across 58 illegal AK-47s, two SKS assault rifles and assorted ammunition

Sergeant 1st Class Lyle Whitted, assigned to

Company B, described the mission as a success due to the capture of possible insurgents.

The detainees and weapons were turned over to the IA Soldiers for further questioning.

The daytime raid was another operation conducted in support of Marne Rugged, an operation to establish security for local Iraqi communities against al-Qaeda in Iraq and criminal forces.

EDUCATION

from Page 1A

"Soldiers have to be cognitively engaged," said WTB Education Specialist, Bruce White, explaining that 'engaged' does not mean sleeping in or sitting around the barracks. "They either have to work or go to school."

White said education opportunities for Warriors are the same as other Soldiers except that Warriors are allowed to attend classes during the day, rather than the evening. Most of the college classes are 4-8 week accelerated courses taught at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center. The two colleges currently enrolling Warriors are Central Texas College and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Active duty Soldiers can receive up to \$4500 tuition assistance each year. WTs who are medically discharged or retired can continue their college education using the Montgomery GI Bill, regardless the number of credit hours they completed on active duty using TA. Or, if they are awarded a disability rating of 20 percent or higher by the Veteran's Administration, they could qualify for the VA's vocational reha-

bilitation program.

White said the colleges currently offering day classes for Warriors give them a lot of latitude regarding medical appointments, so long as they keep their instructors informed. However, Soldiers must remember they cannot miss more than 10 percent of any class.

"I'd like to see more Soldiers involved in education," White said, emphasizing that traditional college classes are not the only education opportunities available to Warriors. "I see a lot of Soldiers with no college at all and no career skill except the military."

White said many of the Soldiers he counsels are not ready for freshman level math or English but don't want to take the remedial level course until they fail. He often tries to get Soldiers to do a career assessment inventory, take the Campbell Interest and Skill Survey or other assessments that make the Soldier aware of career fields that fit his or her interests and the education requirements necessary to meet that goal.

Warriors are also encouraged to use the

education center's Lifetime Library, which offers five-week classes that help Soldiers raise their GT score. Additionally, classes are available for Warriors to earn a General Education Diploma, or they can improve their verbal communication skills with English as a Second Language classes that are taught daily at the education center from 0800-1200. GED and ESL classes are free.

White said Warriors can earn non-traditional college credit through evaluation of Army training (aartstranscript.army.mil), by taking college level exams (i.e., CLEP, DANTES or ECE) or through distance learning courses taken online or by correspondence.

He said Warriors who are discharged while they are in school do not have to pay the Army back for the course, but he or she will still be responsible to the college for completing the course or getting a Withdrawal.

Warriors wanting more information about education opportunities available to them should call White at 767-3328 or visit www.goarmyed.com.

Take mom to lunch

Come join us in a celebration for Mother's Day, 11:30 a.m to 1 p.m., Friday at 3rd Sustainment dining facility. The menu will include:

Southern fried catfish, grilled steak, herbed baked fish, fried scallops French fried shrimp, sautéed mushrooms and onions, French fried okra, vegetable stir fry, fried rice, potatoes au gratin, German potato salad macaroni salad, potato salad, Florida lemon cake, almond cookies, and apple cobbler.

Cost for the lunch is \$3.85.

BARRACKS

from Page 1A



Pat Young

Spc. Cornell Harris, WTB, lives in one of Stewart-Hunter's older barracks, which have been upgraded from a two-person room to a one-person unit. The WTB rooms have cable and Internet access. Harris said he likes his room because it is convenient to other post facilities.

"We clean the rooms," Buchs said. "We give our Soldiers a care package that includes toiletries and snacks to get them through the first 48 hours of coming home. We make their beds with fresh linens for them. We move in any personal household goods the Soldier put into storage. We decorate the rooms. We do what we can to take care of our Soldiers when they come home—right down to almost putting a mint on their pillow—so that when they can walk into a room that they didn't have to do anything with, it's ready to live in."

Reintegration is the 10-day Army mandated process that transitions Soldiers from serving in a combat zone to life in a garrison environment. Pvt. Kevin Okeefe, 5th Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, recently went through reintegration. He lives in one of the oldest barracks on Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield, a Voluntary Army-style barracks built in 1978. The room has about 76 square feet of living space. Okeefe recently came home from a 15-month deployment with the 1st Brigade Combat Team.

"I've been back for about a month," Okeefe said. "Before we deployed we were in different barracks, but they were similar. Living conditions are pretty much the same as before, but coming back - it feels kind of homey."

The 76 square feet of living space in the VOLAR barracks is too small per current Army living standards, but Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield already has plans in

place to ensure Soldiers live in barracks that meet the space requirements.

"Here at Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield, we have a vigorous construction program, with more than \$300 million in barracks construction planned through 2014," Buchs said.

The construction will build more "1+1" barracks on the installation, the latest Army standard for barracks. Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield has three different types of barracks: modular, VOLAR, and 1+1.

The modular barracks on Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield are temporary buildings being used by the 4th Brigade Combat Team and the Warrior Transition Unit. Three Soldiers have individual bedrooms and share a common area in the 4BCT modular barracks. In the standard VOLAR barracks, two Soldiers share a bedroom and bathroom. The WTU VOLAR has only one Soldier per room. The newest barracks, the 1+1, houses two Soldiers who each have an individual bedroom and share a kitchen. Eventually, all barracks will be the 1+1 standard.

Since 1999, the installation has spent \$65 million on barracks renovations, including cleaning, painting, repairs, and replacing floors.

A 1950s-era barracks with roughly 500 spaces was closed and is scheduled for demolition on Hunter Army Airfield.

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield has 7,768 barracks rooms, and currently 3,687 Soldiers are living on the installation.

Chatham tag office helps returning Soldiers

Special to the Frontline

In an effort to assist you with registering your vehicle, y the Chatham County tag office has listed the registration requirements customers should be aware of before coming to register your vehicle. As there may be unforeseen circumstances surrounding your individual registration, it may not be covered in this article.

There may be situations that require you to obtain additional paperwork after you come in to register your vehicle. We will put forth every effort, to ensure that your vehicle registration is processed as timely and smoothly as possible. You may contact us at 652-6800 with questions. Forms and additional information are available on the State of Georgia Department of Revenue's Web site at www.mvd.dor.ga.gov.

Active Duty military, as a non-Georgia resident are not required to register their vehicle if the vehicle is currently registered in your home state of record. However, should you choose to register in Georgia, you will be subject to all the rules, regulations and laws of the State of Georgia regarding Motor Vehicles and Ad Valorem taxes.

Renewing your Georgia tag

You are required to have active Georgia automobile insurance. The Chatham County Tax Commission is unable to accept insurance cards as proof of insurance. You must present a Georgia insurance binder that is no more than 30 days old and/or your insurance company must electronically submit verification through the Georgia Electronic Insurance Compliance System.

- Vehicles owned by non-resident military personnel whose presence in Georgia is a result of military orders and commissioned officers of the U. S. Public Health Service whose presence in Georgia is a result of federal orders are exempt from Ad Valorem taxes.

Ad Valorem tax exemption also covers up to one vehicle jointly owned with a non-resident spouse who resides in this state at the non-resident military personnel's domicile. This Ad Valorem tax exemption does not cover leased vehicles or any vehicle used in connection with a business. To obtain this exemption, you are required to present an original JAG letter issued by the JAG office on base.

The Chatham County Tax Commission is unable to accept your LES. If you have purchased a home in Georgia and filed for Homestead Exemption on your home, you are not exempt from Ad Valorem tax on your vehicle.

There is a \$20 fee for a tag renewal. We accept cash, money orders, and checks. However, we do not accept

third-party or counter checks. The Chatham County Tax Commission requires the driver's license of the writer of the check. If you are paying with someone else's check, you must also present their driver's license.

I. Applying for a Georgia Title and Tag

- You are required to have active Georgia automobile insurance. We are unable to accept insurance cards as proof of insurance. You must present a Georgia insurance binder that is no more than 30 days old and/or your insurance company must electronically submit verification through the Georgia Electronic Insurance Compliance System.

- All owners must be present to sign the MV1 (Georgia Title Application) and all owners must have a state issued driver's license and a military ID card. If one of the owners is unable to be present, an original power of attorney is required.

The only time the Chatham County Tax Commission may accept a copy of a POA is when it is a general power of attorney, which gives the POA a broad and general power to do all things for the individual.

If you are able to download the MV1 from the state's Web site, we will accept the MV1 that the absent owner has already signed. The signature must be an original signature. A faxed signature is not acceptable on any title or tag application.

If there are any other documents that require the absent owner's signature, and you do not have a POA to sign for that person, you will be required to obtain the signature before we can process your application.

- Manufacturer Statement of Origin or title transfer is required to apply for a Georgia title.

- If you have an out-of-state registration that is not expired, bring it in along with the complete name and mailing address of the lien holder. This may not be the address to where you send your payment. To avoid delays, you should contact your lien holder prior to coming in to obtain this information.

- If your out-of-state registration is expired, you will need to have your lien holder fax us a copy of the out-of-state title showing the owner information. The Chatham County Tax Commission fax number is 652-6819.

- Proof that Georgia sales tax has been paid if recently purchased from an out-of-state dealership or business entity.

- Vehicles owned by non-resident military personnel whose presence in Georgia is a result of military orders and commissioned officers of the U. S. Public Health

Service whose presence in Georgia is a result of federal orders are exempt from Ad Valorem taxes.

Ad Valorem tax exemption also covers up to one vehicle jointly owned with a non-resident spouse which resides in this state at the non-resident military personnel's domicile. This Ad Valorem tax exemption does not cover leased vehicles or any vehicle used in connection with a business.

To obtain this exemption, you are required to present an original JAG letter issued by the JAG Office on base. The Chatham County Tax Commission is unable to accept your LES. If you have purchased a home in Georgia and filed for Homestead Exemption on your home, you are not exempt from Ad Valorem tax on your vehicle.

- The title fee is \$18 and a standard tag is \$20 for a total of \$38 cash, check or money order. We do not accept third party checks. In addition, in certain situations, there may be Ad Valorem taxes and/or penalties due.

II. Reinstating previously cancelled Georgia registration

- You are required to have active Georgia automobile insurance. We are unable to accept insurance cards as proof of insurance. You must present a Georgia insurance binder that is no more than 30 days old and/or your insurance company must electronically submit verification through the Georgia Electronic Insurance Compliance System.

- If you cancelled your registration because you cancelled your Georgia automobile insurance, you will need to reinstate your registration. You may also need to renew the tag depending on the original expiration date of the cancelled tag.

- The registered owner's driver's license is required to reinstate the tag. If the registered owner is not able to come in, the person coming in must have an original Power of Attorney to accomplish this service.

III. Insurance lapse, deployed suspension fees

- A MV18J (Insurance Lapse Affidavit) is required. This form can be filled out when you come in to the Tag Office. This form must be notarized.

For your convenience, tag office employees will notarize the form provided that the Notary witnesses you signing the form. The Chatham County Tax Commission tag office is unable to notarize any document that we do not witness you signing.

If you have any questions or a situation that has not been covered here, please call the Chatham County Tax Commission tag office at 652-6800 and we will gladly assist you.



Special to the Frontline

James Krikava currently serves as an Assistant Chief of Operations for the Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Fire and Emergency Services Division. He was promoted to the rank of Assistant Chief April 13, after 14 years of service with the department.

Krikava started his firefighting career with the United States Air Force in 1988. He served a tour of duty in Operation Desert Storm while in the Air Force.

After leaving the Air Force in 1991, Krikava went to work with the City of North Charleston, S.C. Fire Department and the Naval Station Charleston Fire

Department before coming to Fort Stewart as a Firefighter.

Krikava has served as a firefighter, lieutenant, and aptain before being promoted to assistant chief. As the assistant chief, he is responsible for the day-to-day operations of A-Shift at Fort Stewart and serves as the incident commander on all incidents for his given shift. Over his career, Assistant Chief Krikava has shown true dedication to his department, the Department of Defense, and his country.

Krikava has been married to Susan Krikava for 20 years. They have three children, Alexandra, Caroline, and Jack. He and his family reside in Long County.



James Krikava

Legal Notice

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of **Sp. Douglas Grell**, Co. A, 1/3 Brigade Troops Battalion, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact 1st Lt. Michael Sawyer, HHC 1/3 Brigade Troops Battalion, 1 BCT, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, at 912-271-9891.

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of **Sp. Richard Harrison**, 4th Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact 1st Lt. Aubrie Pfeiffer, HQ 4 BCT, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, at 912-767-4876.

Justice Served

Pfc. Larry L. Pierce, HD, 6/8 Cav., 4 BCT, convicted by Summary Court-Martial; Assault consummated by battery, disobeying superior commissioned officer; reduced to Pvt. (E1), forfeiture of \$800 pay and confinement for 30 days.

Command school trains for trouble

Special to the Frontline

What if a civilian aircraft crashes into a hanger full of fertilizer, a tour bus crashes on Hwy 84 outside the Fort Stewart gates, a barrack catches fire with Soldiers trapped inside, or maybe a tornado strikes Fort Stewart and causes widespread damage and injuries? These were some of the scenarios that the Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield and Liberty County emergency response personnel dealt with when the COMMAND SCHOOL TTX 2008 made a stop at Fort Stewart on April 19 and 20. In conjunction with the Liberty County Fire Services, the Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield Fire Department and 9-1-1 Center personnel participated in a two day class that concentrated on the National Incident Management System and how it should be used during different type incidents.

COMMAND SCHOOL TTX 2008 is a company from Lancaster, Pa. that travels across the country giving classes for emergency responders, school leaders, city and county leaders, and anyone else that might find themselves a part of a major incident. The class is taught by using a tabletop mock city called Abbottville. The tabletop city is approximately 6 X 18 feet in size and has different types of buildings, water towers, roads, and vehicles. Instructor Frank Bollinger used Abbottville to create different type scenarios that the emergency responders might face in Liberty County or at Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield. A mock Mid Coast Regional Airport was used to demonstrate an incident involving a civilian aircraft

crashing into a hanger.

The first day started with a short lecture on the NIMS System and how it should work from the local level all the way to the federal level. Then it was time to get started with the exercises. Each exercise was played out as if it were a real incident. Class participants were assigned different positions within the NIMS System. They were issued a vest, toy vehicle, and radio representing their particular position. The incident commander would assign additional personnel to the incident as the incident grew and more people were needed. All communications had to be done using the handheld radio they were issued. As each incident grew in size or severity, the instructor would inject different situations to change up the incident. Examples would be news reporters showing up at the scene, the city of Hinesville mayor or garrison commander wanting official updates, and the IOC being brought into operation. For two days, class participants encountered seven different scenarios ranging from fires to chemical incidents. Some were more complex than others, meaning more NIMS positions had to be filled.

At the end of the two days, all students agreed they had a better understanding of how the NIMS System works and felt that if an incident occurred they would be better prepared to use the system. Emergency responders must be ready to respond to any type of incident at any time.

This training will help the incident commander be fully prepared and ensure that their staff knows their incident role and responsibilities.

Home Buying Workshop

Understand the mortgage application process, learn how to select the right home and how to prepare for the closing. Refreshments and lunch are provided.

Saturday, May 17
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Club Stewart

To register call, 767-5058.

Education Matters



Upcoming college term dates announced

Enrollment will be starting soon for on-post and distance learning classes. Please contact the college directly for course schedules and enrollment information.

Central Texas College, June 2 to July 25, 767-2070 at Fort Stewart or 315-4090 at Hunter Army Airfield.

Columbia College, June 2 to July 26, 767-5336 at Stewart or 352-8635 at Hunter.

Embry Riddle, May 26 to July 27, 767-3930 at Stewart or 352-5252 at Hunter.

Savannah Tech, July 7 to Sept. 19, 408-2430.

Webster University, May 26 to July 24, 767-5357 at Stewart or 354-0033 at Hunter.

Veterans' Education Scholarship announced

The Fund for Veterans' Education will provide scholarships to help meet the cost associated with higher education for veterans from all branches of the United States Armed Forces who served in Afghanistan or Iraq since September 11, 2001 and who are now enrolled in college or vocational-technical school. Applicants should be enrolled on a full-time or part-time basis in an undergraduate program of study at any accredited two-year or four-year institution, public or private, including technical schools for the Fall 2008 term. Scholarship recipients are selected primarily on the basis of financial need. In addition, length of military service (number of months and number of tours served) will be considered. For the application and full details, go to www.veteransfund.org. Applications must be postmarked by June 15.

College classes for Warriors offered

The Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith and Hunter Army Airfield education centers are supporting our Warriors in Transition by offering accelerated daytime college courses. The classes are being presented by Central Texas College and Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. Additional types of courses may be added in future terms as long as interest prevails. To enroll, WTs must sign up through the GoArmyEd portal online. Additional enrollment steps are required for ERAU. See your Soldier and Family Assistance Center education counselor, Bruce White, 767-3328 in building 12719, 777 East 10th Street-north,, Fort Stewart or Fay Ward, education center counselor located in building 1290 at Hunter. Their hours are from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. You may also contact the counselors in building 100 at Stewart, 767-8331 for assistance.

Math and reading tutoring available

Savannah Technical College at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center is offering free "walk-in" tutoring for college students. Math support is available Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m. to noon and 2 to 5 p.m. English tutoring is conducted from 4:45 to 6 p.m. and 8:10 to 9 p.m. You do not have to be enrolled in Savannah Tech to participate. No appointment or pre-registration is necessary. If you need additional information, call 408-2430.

Graduation ceremony scheduled

Have you completed your college degree in 2007 or 2008?

College graduates are invited to participate in the Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield "All College Commencement," 7 p.m., July 24. It will be held at the Main Post Chapel, Fort Stewart, building 500. The graduation brochure will list all graduates or soon to be graduates if they are within six semester hours of completing requirements. To have your name listed, we must hear from you! We request that any military, Family members, retirees, and civilian/contract employees attending on-post schools Savannah Technical, Webster University, etc, should contact their college right away. For those attending off-post schools, please complete the electronic "candidate for graduation" form on the www.stewart.army.mil Web site under the services, education link. Your submission will also allow us to list who will actually walk down the aisle in front of their Family and friends. Forms are also available at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center.

Green-to-Gold briefing slated

The Green-to-Gold briefings are held at the installation education centers every month. On Stewart the briefings are 2 p.m., the first and third Thursday of each month. The Hunter briefings are 2 p.m., the second and fourth Thursday.

\$4,500 tuition available for Soldiers

All active duty members have \$4,500 per fiscal year for education. This entitlement is separate from the Montgomery GI Bill benefits available from the Veteran's Administration. Details are available at 1:30 p.m., Monday – Friday, during a one-hour briefing at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center, room 223.

Troops-, Spouse-to-Teachers briefings slated

The Georgia Troops-to-Teachers Program provides federal funding to qualified servicemembers of up to \$10,000 for becoming public school teachers. Under the Spouse-to-Teachers Program, eligible military spouses may be reimbursed for the cost of state required certification tests up to a total of \$600. Future meetings are scheduled for 11 a.m., May 21, June 25, July 23 and Aug. 20 at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center. For more information, visit online at www.tttga.net and www.sttga.net or call 1-800-745-0709.

Apply for the Georgia HOPE grant

The HOPE Grant is money given by the state of Georgia to students with financial needs to attend vocational/trade schools. The grant covers certificate and diploma programs. Any Soldier or Family member of a Soldier who is stationed in Georgia may be eligible. If you are interested in attending a Georgia vocational or trade school, inquire with your school's financial advisor or visit the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center to speak with a counselor.

Take CLEP and DANTES exams

College Level Examination Program and DANTES Subject Standardized Tests are available on post. Call Columbia College at 877-3406 for more information and testing dates. The exams are free for military personnel. CLEP tests are \$85 and DSSTs

are \$90 for non-military examinees.

Take GED enrichment courses

Graduation Equivalence Diploma and adult education classes are offered in partnership with the Liberty County Adult Education Program at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center.

The courses prepare you to take the GED exam or refresh your skills. The courses are free of charge. You can select from one of a number of dates and times, which are 9 a.m. to noon or 1 to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday; or 6 to 9 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday in rooms 225 - 228.

For more information, call 368-7322. To register for the classes, you must be present for both days of the process. First come, first serve. Call 368-7322 for complete details.

Free ESL classes offered

English as a Second Language courses are offered in conjunction with Savannah Technical College at the Sgt 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center.

Registration is every Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. in Room 227. Beginning courses are taught Monday and Wednesday, 8 to 10 a.m. Intermediate courses are offered Monday and Wednesday 10 a.m. to noon, Tuesday and Thursday 8 a.m. to noon. Call 368-7322, for more information.

CES makes training available

The Civilian Education System provides the Army Civilian Corps self-development and institutional training (leader development) opportunities to develop leadership attributes through distance learning and resident training.

If you are unfamiliar with CES, this link will take you to Army Management Staff College site for CES, or learn more online at www.amsc.belvoir.army.mil/ces.

Educate while you wait

Get your certificate or diploma. Certificates for Web site technician, child care manager, and medical transcription are a few of the eligible programs offered by Savannah Technical College.

Classes are available in the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center and at the Liberty Campus on Airport Road. For more information, call Savannah Tech in the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center at 408-2430 or the Liberty Campus at 408-3024.

Free college course offered

Columbia College Spouse's Opportunity Scholarship provides spouses of military personnel a tuition waiver for an initial classroom course with Columbia College at both the Stewart and Hunter education center sites.

The active duty spouse does not have to take classes with Columbia College. This is a value of \$450, which is the cost of Columbia's three-credit hour classroom course. Call 877-3406 at Stewart or 352-8635 at Hunter for more information.

1BCT Raider University College educatin opporuntiy at Stewart-Hunter

Special to the Frontline

The 1st Brigade Combat Team commander, Col. John Charlton, has given authority for his Soldiers to attend college courses during duty hours for the 90 days after they return from block leave.

The morning and afternoon classes will start June 2, spanning from four to eight weeks, with additional offerings for July and Augus.

The classes, offered by Central Texas College, Columbia College and Embry Riddle University, will be held at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center. Soldiers will need to register through the "Virtual Education Center" on their GO ARMY ED account, www.goarmyed.com.

Please contact an Army Education Counselor if your

account has not been activated. Students must purchase the required textbooks. CTC offers several courses in support of Raider University that meet Monday through Thursday, June 21 through 27. They include Intro to World Religions (GoArmyEd number: 78617) from 9 a.m. to noon; Introduction to Computers (78616) from 1 to 5 p.m.; Supervision (78612) from 1 to 4 p.m.; U.S. History I (78613) 9 a.m. to noon; U.S. History II (78614) from 1 to 4 p.m.; Introduction to Homeland Security (78615) 9 a.m. to noon; and Principles of Basic Emergency Management (87673) from 1 to 5 p.m.

In addition an Introductory Algebra course (87672) meets June 2 through July 11 on 1 to 2:30 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday;

Integrated Software Applications (87674) June 2 through July 25 on 1 to 2:30 p.m., Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday; and General Biology (89728) with lab June 2 to July 25 9 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

For more information about CTC classes, call 876-4045.

To order books visit online at www.ctcd.edu/im/im_main_040108_063008.asp Select "traditional class.

Embry-Riddle courses include Fundamentals of College Student Success, Course number GNED 101, GoArmyEducation number, 74373, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from May 19 to May 23; Speech, SPCH219, 72048, 1 to 5 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, from May 19 to June 20; Business Law, MGMT

390, 74457, 8 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., each Saturday from May 26 to July 27; Public Administration, MGMT308, 90859, 1 to 4:15 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursday June 2 to July 11; and Introduction to Sociology, SOCI210; (GoArmyEd number to be determine) 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from June 2 to July 11.

To enroll, each student must first fill out the online application online at www.erau.edu/admissions.html. At the online application website, click on Worldwide Campus and apply to the Savannah Campus. Apply as a Non-Degree Seeking Student, or provide combat duty orders, and the application fee will be waived. Sign up through the GoArmyEd portal online.

For more information about

Embry-Riddle, call 355-0644.

In addition, Columbia College of Missouri offers classes for 1BCT Raider U June 2 to July 26. Columbia College is offering eight week sections of the upper-level selections as well as a lunchtime Intermediate Algebra course: Intermediate Algebra, Math 106; 87655; 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday; Corrections and Penology, CJAD350, 87645, 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each Monday; Ethics, PHIL330, 87663, 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each Tuesday; Principles of Marketing, MKTG 310, 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., each Thursday; Social Psychology, PSY/SOCI360, 87666, 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each Friday.

For textbooks, call 1-800- 325 - 3252. For more information call 877-3406.



Looking for employment?

Opportunities for permanent employment are available in non-appropriated funds - Morale, Welfare, and Recreation jobs at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. The following are positions with frequent vacancies. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis.

Child and Youth Program Assistant (entry skill, and target levels), \$10.39 to \$12.73 per hour

Recreation Aid - \$5.85 - \$7 per hour
Operations Assistant - \$5.85 to \$8 per hour
Cook - \$8.70 per hour
Hotel Desk Clerk - \$7 to \$7.50 per hour
Cashier - \$8.00 per hour
Custodial Worker - \$7.72 per hour

Waiter/Waitress (Trainee) - \$7.17 to \$8.17 per hour
Food Service Worker - \$7.17 per hour
Bartender - \$8.70 per hour
Laborer - \$7.72 per hour

To search for these positions go to cpol.army.mil, click on Employment, click on Search for Jobs at the bottom of the page under Search-Announcement type in SCNAFDW% then click on "Get Announcement" or hit the enter key. This will narrow your search to the Fort Stewart/Hunter NAF vacancies. Instructions on how to apply are on each announcement. For federal employment opportunities, go to www.usajobs.opm.gov.

For further information on employment opportunities, contact the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, Job Information Center at 767-5051. Our office is located on the 2nd floor (room 2013A) of building 253, Soldier Support Center, 55 Pony Soldier Avenue. The

hours of operations are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Additional NAF vacancies

Recreation Assistant (lifeguard), \$9.75 - \$10.25 per hour (Must possess nationally recognized lifeguard, CPR, and first aid certifications); duty locations include Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. The closing date is Aug. 29.

Customer Services Relations Assistant, \$8.00 per hour, Fort Stewart. The closing date is Aug. 29.

Did you know?

• You don't have to be a U.S. Citizen to be employed by NAF

• Hiring preference for eligible military spouses can be used multiple times for "flexible" status positions.

You do not lose eligibility until you are placed in a regular full or part-time position (NAF or Appropriated Funds).

• There is a hiring preference in NAF for involuntarily separated military members and their eligible Family members.

• Current NAF employees who have worked one continuous year in a position without time limits are eligible to be considered for Civil Service (GS/WG) jobs the same as APF employees who transfer to Army.

• Youth at least 16 years of age can be employed year round in certain NAF positions where conditions and duties meet all criteria of Federal and state child labor laws.

• NAF offers a Management Trainee Program that is targeted to annually hire up to 20 recent college graduates who have bachelor's degrees in certain MWR specialties.

Applications are accepted on a continuing basis and will be used to fill Management Trainee Program vacancies as necessary. Go to www.armymwr.biz and click on Programs for more information.

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Briefs

Come to Town Hall meeting

The combined Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Town hall meeting will be held at Club Stewart and the Hunter Club 5:30 p.m., tonight. Community members are invited to e-mail question or concerns to Army Community Services at Donna.I.Finney@conus.army.mil. In addition, individuals who can't attend the meeting are invited to call in at 767-ROCK (767-7625) or 315-5625. The meeting will be broadcast live on Marne Television.

Get help with separation, receive free book

Where can you turn when the bills are due, the children are acting up, loneliness and doubt are creeping into your quiet hours - and your handling it all alone. There is help.

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Army Community Service, in support of Spouses Day, will provide a free copy of *"Separated by Duty, United in Love - a Guide to long- distance relationships for Military Couples,"* written by Shellie Vandevoorde, at Stewart and Hunter's post exchanges, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Friday, in an attempt to provide you with the necessary tools to help your military relationship survive and thrive.

Enjoy Mother's Day brunch

Don't miss brunch at Stewart and Hunter clubs, Sunday. Call 353-7923 to reserve your spot.

Support AER Fund

Military and civilian personnel are invited to contribute to the Army Emergency Relief Fund underway until May 15. If you want to contribute or need additional information about the campaign, contact Brenda Hill at 315-2691.

Army Birthday Ball slated

The 2008 U.S. Army Birthday Ball will celebrate America's

Army, The Strength of The Nation and our 233 years of service.

This year's U.S. Army Birthday Ball will be held at the Washington D.C. Convention Center, June 14. Visit the AKO Army Birthday Ball registration page for more information.

Join civilian employee fitness program

The civilian Fitness program runs May 12 to Aug. 8. The times are Monday, Wednesday and Friday at Stewart and Hunter between 3 to 4 p.m. at Newman and Tominac fitness centers. Increase your energy level and improve your health. Open to DOD civilians only. Go to www.stewartmwr.com/sports/civfit.htm. Registration deadline is May 12. For more information, call 767-9336 or 315 2019.

Military Family Life Consultants available

Need to Talk to Someone? Free and confidential counseling is now available in your community. If you have reunion adjustment issues, combat stress, relationship problems, parenting concerns, anger management issues or experiencing grief, loss or other concerns, the counselors can assist. The assistance is every Friday, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in Ludowici at the Long County Senior Center, 15 Thornton Drive; 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. each Friday in Pembroke at the Pembroke Senior Center, 24 W. Bacon Street; 1 to 3 p.m. each Thursday in Glennville at the Glennville Welcome Center, 136 S. Main Street; 1 to 2 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. each Monday in Richmond Hill at the Richmond Hill Public Library, Highway 144; and in Hinesville by appointment. For appointment information, call Military and Family Life Consultants at 230-8425.

Stewart

Red Cross summer program kicks off

The American Red Cross Summer Youth Program will begin June 5 and end July 21. The program is open to youth 14 to 17

years old who are interested in providing volunteer service to the community through the hospital and other Fort Stewart agencies. Applications can be picked up at the Red Cross Office in the Audie Murphy Soldier Support Center, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., week days. Please 767-5086 for more informatin.

Special Forces briefings held

Briefings are held noon, 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., every Wednesday at Special Forces recruiting office, building 160, Garry Owen St. or at Hunter Army Airfield every Tuesday, noon and 1 p.m. at the Hunter Education center, room 25. Physical Training tests are given 7 a.m. every Friday at Donovan Parade Field. Uniform is Army Battle Dress Uniform and running shoes. For more information, call 767-1400.

Hunter

PWOC classes, meetings slated

Classes are available for children, ages three and older, including adult Bible study and RCIA classes, 9:45 to 10:30 a.m. every Sunday in the Religious Education building. Call Pam Perez at 315-5440 for more information. Protestant Women of the Chapel meets every Thursday, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Call Valarie Moore at 920- 8519 for information.

Spring Racquetball Tournament slated

Tominac Fitness Center hosts a Spring Racquetball Tournament 10 a.m., Saturday. Come and compete in men's open, novice, and senior and Women's open divisions of racquetball tournament. The event is open to Hunter active duty military, Family members, age 18 and up, retirees, Army civilians and guests. Awards presented to winners in each division. Register by Friday. No charge. For more information, call 315-2019 or 767-9336.



Stewart

Join huddles

Be an active part of your community by attending your huddle and sharing ideas, issues or concerns with Balfour Beatty, today for Isenhower Village; May 15 for Liberty Woods; May 22 for Southern Oaks and May 29 for Coastal Ridge. The time for each event is 10:30 to 11 a.m. The location for the events will be the ball field between Subic and Ramblon for Isenhower Terrace, the playground at the corner of Hero and Liberty for Isenhower Village, the playground behind 161 Amberwood for Liberty Woods, the Southern Oaks Community Center for Southern Oaks, and the playground on Forest and West 8th St.

for Coastal Ridge. Help make your neighborhood a great place to live!

Win a prize

Make your house a home by taking pride in your yard. We will be selecting four winners who have excelled in keeping their yards neat and have made them stand out among the rest. Winners will receive a \$25 American Express Gift Check. May winners will be selected and notified by May 14 and judging will be conducted between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at each GMH community.

Make signs for Soldiers

Some of our troops are getting ready to come home. Welcome your Soldier home by making a personalized sign to hang up or put in your yard. We will provide supplies from 3 to 4:30 p.m., May 21 at the Southern Oaks

Community Center. Just bring your creativity! Let's support our troops!

Community Watch kicks off

A safer community begins with you! Join DES, Balfour Beatty and your Community Mayors for activities and information about the New Community Watch Program, 1 to 3 p.m., May 31 at Playground at the corner of Hero and Davis.

Hunter

Join huddles

Be an active part of your community by attending your huddle and sharing ideas, issues or concerns with Balfour Beatty, May 13 for New Gannam, May 16 for New Savannah and May 20 for New Callaway.

The time for each event is 10:30 to 11 a.m. The location for the events will be the Balfour Beatty Leasing Office for Wilson Acres and New Gannam and the New Savannah/New Call Community Center for the New Savannah and New Callaway huddles.

Create a gift for mom

Kids, show your mom just how special she is by making a craft just for her! Event starts at 4 to 5 p.m., May 9 at the New Savannah / New Callaway Community Center.

Family movie night

Join Balfour Beatty for a fun Family night with a good movie, popcorn and drinks!

For your viewing pleasure from 6 to 8 p.m., May 23 at The Balfour Beatty Leasing Office (New Gannam), "High School Musical 2" will be our featured film. It has a G rating.

Town Hall meeting scheduled tonight

Frontline Staff

The combined Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Town Hall meeting will be held tonight at 5:30 p.m., at Club Stewart and the Hunter Club. Community members are invited to e-mail question or concerns to Army Community Services at Donna.I.Finney@conus.army.mil. In addition, individuals who can't attend the meeting are invited to call in at 767-ROCK (767-7625) or 315-5625. The meeting will be broadcast live on Marne Television. Read the May 8 Frontline for previous Townhall meeting questions and concerns. Previous Town Hall meeting questions and answers ranged from education to healthcare. They are included below for review.

Plans, Training Mobilization and Security

Question: *“The audio of the bugle calls is not always the same. Why is this happening?”*

Answer: Bugle calls played over the Emergency Warning System are not intended to be heard by persons living in the housing areas. Poles activated for bugle calls are located in the unit areas only; however, it may be heard from the housing areas, depending on where the individual lives, and it may be heard inside the quarters, facility, etc. If the music is heard indoors depending on where that person is located (i.e. next to a window versus in the middle of the house) the sound level may differ.

Weather conditions may affect how this sound travels. An example is on a cloudy morning someone living in the housing area may hear music better than on a clear morning, and again this depends on where they're located.

Bottom-line, the sound levels from this system totally depends on location, position (indoors/outdoors) and weather conditions.

Bugle calls are played on weekdays at 6:25, 6:30 and 7:30 a.m., 5 and 11 p.m.; and on weekends and holidays at 5 and 11 p.m.

Directorate of Public Works

Q: *“Fort Stewart has great running paths. My concern is with the dumping of various items, i.e., washing machines, tires, etc. These paths are being used and it is a shame runners have to run around the debris.”*

A: The debris has been removed. DPW and GMH have coordinated an established process to monitor the area to prevent future accumulations of refuse.

Medical Activity

Q: *“I volunteer at the Immunization Clinic at the hospital. Information needs to be distributed on how the system works. It would assist in eliminating some of the confusion.”*

A: The hospital commander has met with the volunteer who is willing to help in patient education for the services at the Immunization Clinic. The commander has met with the Immunization staff and changes are being reviewed to improve services for all parties involved. Once the changes are finalized, information will be put out through the Public Affairs Office on improvements to Immunization Clinic services.

Public Affairs

Q: *“Families who have satellite television cannot get Marne TV.”*

A: Marne Television is available to housing residents on Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield under the following conditions: The new quarters built by GMH on both FS and Hunter come with access to five channels. They are the three Savannah commercial broadcast channels, Georgia Public Broadcasting and Marne TV. Residents who live in older quarters built by the Army and now managed by GMH do not have this access. Residents who subscribe to cable service from COMCAST and SPRINT can get Marne TV as part of their cable service. Residents who subscribe to a satellite television service cannot receive Marne TV through satellite because the Marne TV signal is only sent via cable and cannot be broadcast. Residents in GMH new housing who subscribe to a satellite television service can still get Marne TV by turning off their satellite receiver and turning their television on by itself. Residents in older GMH housing units who subscribe to satellite television cannot receive Marne TV.

Fort Stewart schools

Q: *“Can we get more money for field trips for on-post schools?”*

A: Field trips are an important educational activity for on-post schools. There have been several field trips this year. Listed below are the school trips for FY07/08:

Kessler Elementary School:

Nov. 30, 2007	Club Stewart
April 4	Savannah Trustee Theatre
April 4	Midway Middle School
April 16	Georgia Southern University
May 5	Midway Middle School
May 28	Oakland Island

Brittin Elementary School:

Sep. 25, 2007	Georgia Southern University
Nov. 3, 2007	Georgia Southern University
Nov. 30, 2007	Club Stewart
Dec. 13, 2007	Fort Stewart PX
March 25, 27, 28	Skidaway Island Aquarium
March 31	Savannah Trustee Theater
April 3 and 4	Savannah Trustee Theater
April 4	Midway Middle School
May 5	Georgia Performing Art Center
May 30	Fort Stewart Corkan Gym

Diamond Elementary School:

Nov. 30, 2007	Club Stewart
Dec. 18, 2007	Winn Army Community Hospital
Dec. 4, 2007	Marne Lanes
March 28	Cottrell Field
April 4	Savannah Music Festival
May 7	Savannah Country Day School
May 9	Winn Army Community Hospital

DPW/GMH

Q: *“Can we get a sign on 18th and Bundy Streets?”*

A: The sign has been placed by DPW.

Fort Stewart Schools

Q: *“My concern is with Diamond Elementary. I received a note requesting funds be added to my daughter's account. My problem is the account was a negative \$41. There has to be a better way. Previous schools where my daughter attended had an electronic system. Parents could go online to review and add funds as needed.”*

A: Next school year, we will be implementing an additional calling system that will include notifying parents of monies owed to the cafeteria. This will be in addition to the current procedures where parents are notified in writing when their debt is \$10.00 or more. Hopefully, this additional communication will decrease the number of parents owing money to the cafeteria.

Q: *“Why are the trailers at Brittin Elementary so small?”*

A: All the classrooms and the trailers at Brittin do not meet current DOD space standards, but they did when the school was built and the trailers were purchased. The staff does a good job of utilizing the existing space. There is a plan to alternately place children in classrooms at earliest possible date.

DPW/GMH

Q: *“In Bryan Village South, the bulletin board glass is broken and the papers are littered. In addition, the playgrounds are a mess.”*

A: The bulletin board glass has been repaired by DPW. Playgrounds are inspected at least twice a week for serviceability and cleanliness. If a resident discovers a playground that is dirty or has a safety hazard, they can contact the service order line at (912) 408-2466 to report any area in need of cleaning or maintenance.

MEDDAC

Q: *“Are there any notifications of the use of triage nurses? I could not get an appointment for my son who had a bad cough. I was referred to the triage nurse. The nurse did not call me back. I called the Patient Representative and I was told that if I went to urgent care I would have to pay for the services.”*

A: We will ask our Public Affairs Officer to advertise the functions of the Triage Nurses in the Primary Care Clinics in assisting patients in receiving care.

Our current process is as follows:

- If a patient requests an acute appointment and none are available (acceptable), the caller is transferred to the Triage Nurse.
- The Triage Nurse makes the assessment regarding the acuteness of the request.
- She will either book the patient in an available acute slot (same day or next day) or enter a referral for one of the local urgent care clinics for the same day.
- If it is deemed to be routine, it will be booked accordingly. If for test results or medication refills, the triage nurse

sends an electronic telephone consultation request is entered to the Primary Care Manager.

The patient will be billed for services unless their visit was deemed emergent or urgent without an authorization from their Primary Care Manager.

MEDDAC

Q: *“My issue is the triage nurse at ER. I do not always give all my information to the triage nurse. I do not want everyone to hear what is wrong with me. The triage nurse is prioritizing patients based on the information. So others have been seen before me.”*

A: We take patient's privacy very seriously. Patients seen at Winn's Emergency Department are assessed by the triage nurse then sorted by patient acuity. The primary goal of triage is to identify patients who require immediate treatment for life-threatening conditions. The triage nurse's second goal is to sort or prioritize patients according to identified acuity.

When a patient enters the ED for care, they will register with the Medical Service Assistant. It is the patient's option if they want to inform the MSA the reason for their visit. The MSA will put it on their registration packet for the Triage Nurse to review.

If the information is not available the Triage Nurse makes every effort to triage the patients in a timely manner upon their arrival. The personal information is then discussed privately.

The MEDDAC commander directed staff to look at the issue of privacy and find a solution to improve privacy of patients when they initially report to the MSA. A barrier has been constructed in the ER to provide more privacy separating the patient from people waiting in the ER.

GMH

Q: *“When I was shown one housing unit, the leasing agent did not stay with me. It was really filthy. I did get another home in the same area. My problem when I was shown the first home, I was told it would be cleaned up within 24 hours if I accepted the unit. The unit was not leased until two weeks after I was shown the unit.”*

A: Current policy is upon move-in, the leasing agent accompanies the resident to their home before signing their lease. The resident has an additional 7 days after move-in to return a list of any deficiencies they find that were not previously noted on their property condition report form.

Homes are inspected prior to move and are cleaned again if necessary. Since this was not the case in this instance, the community manager has reiterated the standard to the leasing specialist in order to keep this from happening again in the future.

DES

Q: *“My concern is the home and car break-ins. My car and my friend's car have been broken into. I did report it. MPs did take the report, but is there something being done about this? I feel unsafe.”*

A: The Fort Stewart and Hunter Police are committed to maintaining a safe and secure community for everyone to enjoy. While no further information was available from the individual sharing this concern, Police continue to perform mounted and dismounted patrols of all housing areas 24 hours-a-day/seven days-a-week. Additionally, the installation will begin participation in nationally recognized Neighborhood Watch program this summer. This program provides crime prevention education, products, and processes to housing area Mayors and residents allowing everyone to play an active role in maintaining safe and secure neighborhoods. All community members are encouraged to report criminal or unsafe acts to the appropriate police desk anytime, at Fort Stewart 767-4895 or Hunter at 315-6133.





CAB Soldiers receive awards

CAMP STRIKER, Iraq – Lt. Col. William McGarrity (left), commander of 603rd ASB, 3rd CAB, pins the Army Commendation Medal on Sgt. Michael Reid, of Georgetown, Ky., during an awards ceremony at Camp Striker April 26. Reid, a tactical satellite terminal operator, with 603rd ASB, was also awarded the Combat Action Badge for his performance during a rocket attack while serving at a joint security station outside of Baghdad.

Soldier saves Army estimated \$3 million

Pfc. Monica K. Smith
3rd CAB Public Affairs

CAMP STRIKER, Iraq –The combat aviation shop is filled with techno music and heavy metal as the brigade's only machinist works busily to craft custom-made tools in support of maintenance companies.

As the machinist for Company B, 603rd Aviation Support Battalion, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, Sgt. Mark White saves the army millions of dollars by producing parts and tools difficult to obtain during deployment.

"I extract bolts, repair treads, make bolts, make stuff not available in the supply system by taking measurements, and then I make it right here in my own shop," White said.

The wait for these parts and tools is usually long, especially for specific parts Soldiers use to work on aircrafts every day. In adding up the tool cost, plus shipping and time saved from waiting, White's platoon sergeant, Sgt. 1st Class Jose Cruz-Ortiz, estimated he was able to save the Army \$3 million during his deployment.

"My job is deployment heavy," White said. "In Savannah they can go and buy stuff or they can order it and get it really quick. The work I do here saves the Army a lot of time so they don't have to order things overseas and have it shipped."

The requests and blueprints White receives from his customers come in various mediums: some as precise as a drawing with accompanying measurements, others as vague as hand gestures combined with the phrase, "it's about this big."

"Customers come up with some pretty crazy stuff," White said. "But for the most part it's all important stuff. They don't waste my time."

There are times when White will create a part without understanding its role.

"I made two brass ones and already they want me to make more," said White holding up a metal rod. "I don't even know what it

is."

All requests go through production control to ensure his labor is put to good use, White says. The PC office decides what is important and what isn't.

"He works wonders," Cruz-Ortiz said. "During PC meetings people will ask if he can make something for them."

At times the measurement for a product he makes has a variable of plus or minus one-one thousandth of an inch. Those measurements are called "critical measurements," White said. He works diligently with a dial caliber and magnifying glass to achieve precision.

"(The measurement is) so exact that if I'm just a little off I have to scrap the whole thing and start over," White said.

When White enlisted in the Army, many of his military occupational specialty choices were infantry related, however he did notice one as machinist. Having enjoyed shop class in high school, White chose the position.

"I enjoy it and it's fun," White said. "I like the job satisfaction. I know what I'm doing saves the Army a lot of money and helps people."

In addition to working for each of the units within the brigade, White has also assisted the Air Force, the Iraqi army and once provided more than 100 modified M16 mounts for Company B, 2nd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division, from Fort Drum, N.Y. However, all projects are prioritized.

"When there's an (aircraft on ground) I stop everything and work on that," White said. "If I have the day off they'll come get me, but I know the job's important, so I don't really mind if they have to come and get me."

White's shop is an aviation intermediate level maintenance. However, there are times when producing a specialty tool requires authorization at the depot level in Corpus Christi, Texas. At first, they were wary of White's ability to produce such precise tools, but now he's granted authorization as soon as he requests it.

26th BSB maintains the surge

Sgt. David Turner
2nd BCT Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq – On a typical Saturday morning back home in Minerva, Ohio, Spc. Joshua Wahn might be washing his car or one of his two trucks.

This Saturday, however, he spent the morning pressure-washing Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles and humvees as part of the 26th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division's "maintenance day" May 3

The 26th BSB keeps hundreds of various vehicles ready for mission in their area of operation. A year spent already in Iraq, however, has not been kind to these machines.

"Every day is maintenance day," said Capt. Carey Way, commander of Company A, 26th BSB. "But since we've been here a year, a lot of these vehicles have taken a beating."

Carey's company handles distribution and is in charge of heavy vehicles like the tank-hauling heavy equipment transports. Much of the time, his vehicles drive on poorly-paved or dirt roads, in a hot, dusty environment.

"Our vehicles get a lot more wear and tear over a year than you would just driving on city streets," he said.

Historical data says that a year in Iraq puts ten

years of wear and tear on combat vehicles, said Maj. Henry Young, 26th BSB executive officer.

Having a battalion-wide maintenance day, he said, is the best way to make sure essential equipment will last until the brigade's mission is complete.

"We're recharging, maintaining the force," Young said. "And we're taking time to help sustain ourselves."

With a year's worth of hard miles on the odometer and more than two months to go, it's a struggle to keep these machines in top-working order, Way said.

Way added that while his Soldiers have done a great job keeping their vehicles on the road, maintenance day is a way for them to fight complacency.

"We're here to make sure our vehicles are ready for the rest of the haul," he said.

Nobody is excluded from maintenance day, said Company B commander Capt. Tim Page.

"We told everyone in the battalion, 'this is your place duty for today,'" he said.

During the day, Soldiers performed routine maintenance checks and services, but also paid particular attention to repairing and maintaining air conditioning, radios and other devices.

"The Soldiers out on the road understand that equipment has to be up," Young said. "It has to be rolling because it's a lifeline."



Sgt. David Turner

Soldiers of the 26th BSB pitch in to keep their vehicles rolling during maintenance day at FOB Kalsu, May 3.

26th BSB sprints to finish build-up of PB Dezil

2nd BCT Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq – Soldiers of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team are fast completing work and delivery of equipment and materials for Patrol Base Dezil, the 12th patrol base established by the 2nd BCT, 3rd Infantry Division.

Each patrol base has been a learning experience for the Soldiers of the 26th Brigade Support Battalion who make

construction possible through combat logistic patrols.

Chief Warrant Officer Sallyann Burroughs, accountables officer for the 26th BSB, said before any materials or supplies can be consolidated or ordered through her office, engineers responsible for the construction must first receive an estimate of how many Soldiers will be occupying the base.

"All that stuff is based off of the number of personnel who are going to be there," said Burroughs, a native of Mays Landing, N.J.

She said once she and her staff get the equipment and supplies organized and on trucks, the transportation specialists take over and deliver the items to the construction site.

Burroughs says over the past year she and her fellow Soldiers have become increasingly successful. "At first there were a lot of hiccups because we were new at building patrol bases but since we've gotten it down ... it's a lot easier now," she said. "There are a lot fewer headaches and heartaches."

Another reason the process has improved is because communication between the units occupying the patrol base and the units delivering the supplies has improved, said Maj. Paul Struck, support operations officer for the 26th BSB.

"We're quick to bring up changes and issues right away and we just work through them together," said Struck, a native of Blanco, Texas.

Beginning April 15, Soldiers of the 26th BSB have escorted trucks containing T-wall concrete barriers and gravel daily in order to meet the average 15-day time frame for the build-up of a patrol base.

Struck said though the process has become easier, the build-up of Dezil has proven to be a challenge because the battalion has been responsible for the transportation of 300 T-walls and 92 gravel trucks.

"We started out saying that it was a marathon but I don't think we've ever gotten to our marathon pace ... it's been a sprint for twelve months so far," he said.

As Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) settle in to their new home, Soldiers of the 26th BSB will continue to fulfill their mission.

Despite the grind Struck says his Soldiers' performance has impressed him.

"I think our Soldiers are awesome. They are up to the challenge each and every time and that's the amazing part. "



Capt. Trista Mustaine

Soldiers of the 2nd BCT and engineers of the 3rd Inf. Div. work to build the perimeter walls of PB Dezil, April 19 in Sayafiyah, south of Baghdad.

Iraqi teachers receive basic first aid training

2nd BCT Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq - The 415th CA team coordinated the training with medics from 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd BCT, 3rd Inf. Div., at Combat Outpost Murray to help train Iraqi teachers in basic first aid in mid-April at nine Arab Jabour and al-Buaytha schools.

Teachers employed at the schools asked

Soldiers from the 415th Civil Affairs Battalion, currently attached to 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, if they could teach them first aid techniques in case of emergencies.

Staff Sgts. Joshua Bundy and Jason Doyle, both civil affairs noncommissioned officers, worked with 1/30th Inf. Regt. medics Staff Sgt. Jason Magee and Spc. Elizabeth Huggins to come up with a curriculum for the training.

"We wanted to provide the teachers with the proper first aid training for school yard injuries," said Bundy, a native of Hastings, Mich.

He said the teachers were receptive to the training and asked if the medics could come back to the school and teach them more advanced techniques.

"We are glad that we could assist the local Iraqi teachers and improve their medical

knowledge," said Magee, from Elbridge, N.Y. "This will allow them to better care for the children in their classrooms."

Donations from an American company will supply the schools with first aid kits to be left at the school. Emergency Medical Products, an Internet medical supply company based in Wisconsin, donated more than 60 first aid kits.

Bundy said plans are being made to give the teachers an advanced first aid course.



Special to the Frontline

The Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Garrison will be conducting three Hurricane/Severe Weather Awareness Briefings for the upcoming hurricane season. These briefings are for Soldiers, Family members, Family Readiness Groups and Department of the Army civilians.

There will be a briefing at Stewart May 20. It will be conducted at Moon Theater, building 704, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Child and Youth Services will provide child care free of charge starting at 5:30 p.m. at

building 403.

There will be one briefing at Hunter Army Airfield, May 21. It will be conducted at the Hunter Club, building 6015, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. DMWR/CYS will provide child care free of charge starting at 5:30 p.m. at building 1284.

The child care will be free of charge, it will be first come, first serve. Children do not have to be registered through CYS. Please have the parents call the child development center, building 403 at Fort Stewart at 767-3202, or the CDC, building 1284, at Hunter at 315-6115.

For more information about the exercise, call Tony Fleeger at 767-2583.

Center provides space for self service supplies

Kaytrina Curtis
Hunter Public Affairs

On a warm, cloudless, picture perfect day, Hunter Army Airfield's Soldiers and civilians witnessed the ribbon cutting for the not-for-profit L C Industries' Self-Service Supply Center, May 1.

The 7,800 square-foot facility on Hunter houses a variety of items from empty M16 ammunition clips to hanging file folders. Organized and brightly lit, the SSSC welcomed the community to come see the many products offered for its military and civilian customers.

Bill Hudson, president L C Industries stated that along with the 130,000 products offered through their distribution line, they also offer the opportunity for customers to place special orders.

"Any product you need, if you come to us we will find that product," said Hudson. "We are here to serve you."

Founded in 1936, the 72-year-old company officially opened its doors Mar. 17 for government impact card holders and contractors on Hunter. The largest employer for people who are blind in the United States, L C Industries took an opportunity to partner with Fort Bragg in the mid-1990s. Forging this partnership with the military allowed L C industries to hire the blind in a retail setting. The successful partnership has expanded to more than 130 SSSCs on military installations across the country, including the stores on Fort Stewart and now Hunter.

Today the corporation employs approximately 400 legally blind people and produces 816 different products. Eddie Shellman, a customer service representative at the Hunter store is legally blind and wears special prescription sunglasses to thwart the glare from the overhead lights. He described the job as being challenging, yet rewarding.

"It's a fruitful experience," said

Shellman. "It teaches me a lot about customers and customers' needs."

New technology helps the legally blind employees to pick and pack products in the distribution center at the corporation's Durham, N.C. location.

Although they can never operate a forklift or drive a truck, Hudson stated, the technology allows people who are blind to do just about any job in the operation. A new talking computer system, which is in the testing phase, helps employees get the correct product off the shelf for distribution.

"The system tells them if they are correct or incorrect," Hudson said. "The success we have had is that they are picking as well as their sighted counter-parts."

The Hunter store is currently staffed with five personnel.

"Our mission is to serve you as our customer," Hudson said. Hunter's SSSC is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

3rd SB welcomes Lynch one last time in Iraq

Spc. Gaelen Lowers
3rd Sustainment Brigade

FORWARD OPERATING BASE Q-WEST, Iraq – The 3rd Sustainment Brigade welcomed Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, commander of the 3rd Infantry Division and Multinational Division Center, possibly for the last time in Iraq, during his recent visit to the FOB.

Units of 3rd Inf. Div. are currently redeploying back to their home station of Fort Stewart, which will soon include Lynch as he prepares for his move to his next assignment, sometime in the July-September timeframe, said Lt. Col. Patrick Curran, executive officer for the 3rd Sustainment Bde.

Lynch said he could his replacement has been identified and will be reporting to Stewart sometime between June and September.

During his visit, Lynch helped reenlist five Soldiers, one at FOB Q-West and four others at Fort Stewart via video teleconference.

Lynch told the re-enlistees and the Soldiers of the 3rd Sustainment Bde. that because of their efforts in this war Iraq is becoming a safer place, a place where there is freedom from fear.

“We went from about 25 attacks a day to less than 2 a day,” said Lynch of his southern providences. “It’s a difficult fight up here. I understand that, but over time it will get better.”

“Iraq is a place of turmoil right now,” Lynch stated, “but its worth a million dollars to me to know that we are contributing to freedoms”.

Lynch continued saying, “You have a choice in life. You can either read history or make history, and you all chose to make history.”



Spc. Gaelen Lowers

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, commander of the 3rd Inf. Div. and Multinational Division Center, laughs at his farewell “gag” gift from the 3rd Sustainment Brigade at FOB Q-West. The gift was supposed to be his actual farewell gift but Lynch’s name was accidentally misspelled by the maker of the plate.



Pfc. Evan Loyd

Private First Class Ken Demofonte, a TST platoon rifleman for the 3/1st Cav. Regt. provides security while other platoon members search for weapons, May 1 in Jisr Diyala, Iraq.

TST platoon follows tip

Pfc. Evan Loyd
2nd BCT, 1st AD Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE HAMMER, Iraq – Members of the time sensitive target platoon, an element of 3rd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, conducted a search mission, May 1 in Jisr Diyala to verify information on a potential weapons cache.

The TST specializes in raid and search operations against criminals in the Mada’in Qada; their searches are not limited to one battalion area of operations, said Maj. David Guthrie, from Hampton, Va.

“The TST is really a master of all areas,” said Guthrie, the operations officer in charge of planning the TST missions. “They do missions all over the Mada’in Qada.”

First Lieutenant John Lorme, from Aberdeen, Md., the unit’s platoon leader, received information of possible rocket-propelled grenades and launchers hidden in a house in Jisr Diyala. Leaders of 3/1st Cav. Regt. suspected criminals of using a house to prepare attacks against

Coalition forces, said Capt. James Capobianco, from Middleton, N.Y., intelligence officer for 3/1st Cav. Regt.

“My men hope for the best and are prepared for the worst,” Lorme said before the mission.

When they arrived at the target house, the TST platoon Soldiers quickly set up a perimeter. They began the mission by clearing the target houses and securing the people inside. Their search for weapons and explosives lasted about an hour, but none were found.

“You don’t always find something on these missions,” Lorme said. “But ... everyone comes back safe, it’s a success to me.”

Guthrie agreed with Lorme’s assessment.

“Going out there disrupts the extremists,” he said. “When we raid into their sanctuary, it disrupts the extremists’ networks and they feel hounded.”

In the 14 months that TST has operated in the Mada’in Qada, their efforts have been successful, Guthrie said. They have captured five brigade-level high value individuals, 12 squadron HVIs and numerous weapons caches.



REWARD
\$2,000

A reward of \$2,000 is being offered for information leading to the identification, arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for the larceny of a 1993 John Deere Tractor and Towmaster Trailer that occurred between Feb. 29 and March 3, in an open field (adjacent the intersection

of Italy St. and Frank Cochran Blvd), which is directly across the street from Canoochcc Electric Membership Corporation Facility, Fort Stewart.

Anyone with information concerning this matter is encouraged to call the Fort Stewart CID Office, 30th

Military Police Detachment (CID), 3rd MP Group (CID), Fort Stewart, at 767-5030, or the military police desk, Fort Stewart, 767-4895.

Anyone having knowledge of the incident but not wishing to be identified will be briefed on available options in maintaining their confi-

dentiality.

The payout of cash rewards to military and federal employees for information leading to a conviction is contingent upon exceptional actions regarding the information provided.

Reward offer expires on: March 19, 2009 (0071-08-CI0093-40435)

Iraqi police hone skills with Coalition forces help

1st Lt. William Perdue
4th BCT Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE ISKAN, Iraq - A small group of 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers helped provide in-depth training and honed skills of a motivated team of Iraqi policemen, April 23. Soldiers from 4th Platoon, Company C, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Inf. Div., teamed up with the Tahrir Iraqi Police Station to reinforce basic police procedures, including vehicle and personnel searches.

"My Soldiers were pretty impressed with the knowledge and proficiency that these IPs possessed," said 1st Lt. Greg Hope, 4th Platoon leader. "We definitely underestimated their abilities, and we were pleasantly surprised by their performance."

Hope initiated the IP training by offering his platoon's expertise to Lt. Col. Kareem, the Tahrir IP chief. Kareem responded positively to the training, believing that the training would be a benefit and welcomed any

advice the unit had. The IPs arrived with Maj. Hussein, the officer in charge of the IP officers. Upon arrival, 4th Platoon recognized the IPs as some of the most proficient and skilled from the Tahrir department, said Hope, a West Chester, Ohio, native.

Kareem sent his best men to the training, Hope said. Two of the IPs had attended a two-month course in Jordan designed to teach basic police skills.

During the training Coalition forces reached several conclusions. The IPs were motivated and appreciated the tips they received to improve their performance, Hope said. The Tahrir IP department has sufficient knowledge to train its entire force, and an internal training program needs to be established in order to share the knowledge that some of the stronger officers have, Hope added.

"Now we just need to work with the Military Police Platoon on FOB Iskan to develop a training program so that these IPs can spread their knowledge to the rest of the Tahrir IPs," said Hope.



1st Lt. Greg Hope

Staff Sgt. Jon Kraft and Sgt. Adam Smith, both with 4th Plt., Co. C, 3/7 Inf. Regt. 4th BCT, 3rd Inf. Div., speak with an IP officer from the Tahrir Iraqi Police Station in Iraq during training April 23 at FOB Iskan, Iraq.

Coalition forces give Iraqis tips

Sgt. 1st Class Tami Hillis
4th BCT Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq - Under the auspice of a cooperative medical engagement, Soldiers from 703rd Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, taught classes on water purification and handed out 150 water purification systems to families in Samrah, Iraq, April 26.

Coalition forces are trying to increase Iraqis life expectancy by teaching basic hygiene, and reinforcing the importance of drinking clean water.

The engagement allowed villagers to learn about basic public health. Most of the classes focused on the importance of clean water to prevent gastrointestinal issues and skin problems experienced in the area.

The local drinking water comes from a canal used by animals and as a result, residents have been victimized by worms and skin diseases, said Spc. Lori MacFarland, a medic for 703rd BSB, 4th BCT, 3rd Inf. Div., who taught the classes.

The local sheikh selected five males and five females from different households throughout the village to participate in the train-the-trainer course.

Medics from the unit scooped a bucket of water from the canal, strained it

through a white cloth and boiled it to show residents all the sediments that still remained despite filtration.

"By boiling the water it kills the living organisms and makes it better for them to drink, which will mean fewer illnesses," MacFarland said.

Medics strained the water several more times until clear. "After that I drank the water it gave them the confidence that it was clean," MacFarland said, an Atlanta native.

Classes also included instructions on brushing and flossing teeth, hand sanitation, washing food, and using the purification systems.

"Overall I think this was a step in the right direction," Woody said. "It's sustainable and the nice thing about the classes is now they have something they can use."

The Soldiers also left behind Arabic instructions so other families could benefit from the classes, and donated toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss, basins, straining cloth and goodies for the children,.

"After I went and came back I thought, 'Wow, they really did need this class,'" MacFarland said. "It's a good idea to go out and train others and have them get the information out to the other families."

Right now the unit is scheduled to conduct another CME in a different location May 24.

Town name to change to Beautiful Spring

1st Lt. Zack Boes
4th BCT Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE ISKAN, Iraq - Residents of the Hay Jasmen neighborhood in Musayyib, Iraq will soon walk on improved roads instead of dirt and jagged rocks.

The roads are nearly complete; workers are in the finishing stages of constructing gutters on the sides of the streets.

In addition to the road refinishing, a waste management project is almost complete. Areas that previously appeared carpeted by trash are now nearly spotless.

As a result of these improvements, the neighborhood's mood has changed from despair to encouragement and guarded optimism, said Lt. Col. Timothy Newsome, from Homerville, Ga., commander of 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division.

Not only has the area been greatly enhanced by new roads and clean up, but approximately 300 people have been employed because of these projects, said Newsome.

The neighborhood leader or Mukhtar is so pleased with the outcome that he plans to change the area's name to "Beautiful Spring," he said.

When the dust settles, heroes remain

Pat Young
Managing Editor

Pfc. Alex Getty, Warrior's Transition Battalion, recently returned to Fort Stewart from service in Afghanistan with the 546th Military Police Company. Although injured, his attitude reflects the pride in service associated with many of the unsung heroes still serving there.



courtesy photo

Pfc. Alex Getty scans the horizon in Afghanistan

Getty was part of a four-man team, with 3rd Squad, 1st Platoon, 546th Military Company.

On May 12, 2007, his squad was conducting a routine patrol, en route to help train local Afghani police officers. As a gunner for his team's M1151 armored HMMV, he was keeping an eye out for anything unusual during their trip.

"We were driving out of the gate, when I saw a white sedan station wagon driving in our direction," Getty said. He said the vehicle was operated by a middle aged male, and he did not think anything was out of the ordinary at the time. "It felt like a normal day - something we've done many times.

When the vehicle was about 15 feet away and to the side, it detonated, causing a big fireball, which surrounded Getty's truck. Getty said the HMMV rolled to a stop and everybody immediately got out. The insurgent had died in the explosion and they didn't receive any more fire. But the rest of the squad took immediate action to be sure.

"The other vehicles in the convoy immediately set up security around us," Getty said. "We started checking each other out to make sure we were ok."

Getty being exposed to the flames needed immediate help. "I recall jumping off the top of the Humvee," he said. "I don't really remember the guy who helped wrap me up, but I think they were part of a quick reaction force. I recall being concerned with my team's safety."

Getty received burns to the face and hands, which would later require skin grafting, and was sent to Landstuhl,

Germany.

The explosion also caused Mild Traumatic Brain injury. Although the incident changed his life, he remembers service with the 3rd Infantry Division, and the 546th with pride.

"The mission is real there. The Afghans appreciate what we're doing," Getty said. "I made a few close friends there who made times comical, although the mission was hard. We grew close. We'd wake up early, and sometimes stay up all night if the mission required it. Sometimes we ended up sleeping in our trucks."

Getty said the camaraderie with other units was strong, as they were able to help out with other units like the 10th Mountain and 82nd Airborne divisions. He said he witness a lot of progress in his area, while he was there.

"There was a police station across from a school we worked at for a week. I recall throwing the ball with some of the local children when they passed the guard tower (which was made of mud)," Getty said. "The children seemed to like us. They'd bring us Kabob's and even a Pepsi now and then."

Now, as a WT, he helps out the Frontline newspaper using his passions for photography, and takes advantage of the installation's WTU job training program in learning graphic design, newspaper layout, and journalism.

Getty is one example that after the conflict is over and the dust settles, heroes remain. The Frontline is looking for Soldiers willing to share their story of service in Iraq or Afghanistan. For more information, call 767-5669.

Individual Ready Reserve Soldiers are by no means inactive

Special to the Frontline

Recent headlines have indicated some Soldiers in the Individual Ready Reserve do not fully understand the process by which to request a delay or exemption from service, should they consider themselves non-deployable. The U.S. Army Human Resources Command explains there is a formal process for those Soldiers who feel a need to submit such a request.

Mobilization orders for IRR soldiers contain an 800 number a Soldier may call to initiate a request for a delay or exemption, where they will be instructed on how to submit their request. More than fifty percent of those who submit requests for delays or exemptions are approved.

Requests for delay or exemption

need not be submitted by government officials on behalf of the Soldier. All requests are treated with the same care and consideration. A Soldier who submits a delay or exemption request will not be mobilized until their case is adjudicated.

As a matter of routine, that Soldier will receive an administrative delay if their case cannot be adjudicated before their scheduled report date. Army Human Resources Command will notify the soldier by phone and in writing of an administrative delay. That administrative delay will allow for a thorough review of information and documents provided by the Soldier. Administrative delays are not unusual "special favors." They are granted in accordance with standard operating procedures that exist

to ensure a soldier's situation is carefully and completely considered. Instructions on the appeals process are provided to soldiers who disagree with the findings of the Delay and Exemption Board.

Almost 72,000 Soldiers serve our nation today in the Individual Ready Reserve, with approximately 6,500 of those Soldiers currently serving on active duty. These trained, experienced professionals stand ready to individually augment Army units fighting in the Global War on Terrorism.

Every Soldier who joins the military incurs an eight-year service obligation. A "Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty," or Department of Defense Form 214, releases a soldier from active duty, but does not release the Soldier from their total eight-year obliga-

tion. Soldiers may serve two or four years on active duty, and are then transferred to the Reserves to fulfill the remainder of their obligation. The IRR is one of several Reserve programs a Soldier can enter.

Soldiers serving in the IRR are by no means inactive. There are many opportunities available for IRR Soldiers to continue their military careers. As IRR members, they can apply for active duty assignments, obtain professional development training, and earn promotions.

Each IRR Soldier meets minimum annual requirements that include updating personal contact information, attending muster duty, updating a readiness screening questionnaire online, and responding to official military correspondence.

IRR soldiers may also be involuntarily mobilized in time of national

crisis, as we have seen today in support of the Global War on Terror. To give a historical perspective, approximately 14,000 IRR Soldiers were mobilized and deployed for Operation Desert Storm.

All mobilized IRR Soldiers are screened at mobilization stations for medical conditions that would render them non-deployable.

This process is not only for the benefit of the Army, but for the benefit of the soldier, to ensure medical conditions are properly documented.

Individual Ready Reserve Soldiers represent a group of trained, experienced military professionals who can be called upon to serve our nation in times of national crisis. Today's IRR Soldiers are "individual warriors" ready to give their full measure in defense of freedom.